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[JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT.]

REVIEWS

Prince Pückler Muskau in Africa—[*Semilasso in Afrika*]. 3 vols. Stuttgart, Hallberger; London, Rolandi.

SINCE writing our first notice of his Prussian Highness's visit to Africa, we have received from Germany three more subsequently published volumes. These are wholly occupied with Tunis, the capital, the Bey, court ceremonies, and the interior of the kingdom. This last, which from the pen of an observer of the character of our present traveller, should be the most interesting, appears to us far less so than the capital and court, from which we shall take most of our extracts. The Prince thus describes his arrival at Tunis.

Nearly the whole way from our night's quarters to Tunis lay through an olive grove, in which, ere long, we met a party of horsemen, one of whom led a richly-accoutred, dazzlingly white palfrey, his mane and tail dyed a bright orange colour, and his body spotted, tiger fashion, with henna. Soon afterwards appeared another party of full-dressed Beduins, whose leader rode a prancing steed, and bore a lance with a striped red and green pennon, with which he executed several pretty manœuvres—now whirling it over his head, now trailing it on the ground. Other cavaliers arrived from an opposite direction, and all joined in martial games and evolutions upon an open space. We watched them awhile with pleasure, and learned that they were celebrating a wedding, and that the female part of the company were looking on from a secret bower. *

On reaching the town gate, beside the ruins of an old tower, we found a large camp pitched, in which the Tunisian troops, newly organized upon the European model, were assembled for their spring exercises. Their dress, likewise, is called European, and the change from the Turkish is very disadvantageous to their appearance, especially that of the officers, whose costume is this:—on the head a scarlet *fes*, distinguished from that of the other Tunisians by the deep blue fringe on the top, in addition to the universal long blue tassel. The uniform is a blue *kutka*, or jacket, a blue cloth waistcoat of our cut, and striped red and white sash round the waist, and blue cloth trousers, Turkishly wide from the hip to the knee,—tight as any European pantaloons from the knee to the ankle, where they are fastened with a band. White stockings, with tied shoes, complete this ungraceful dress, so mean in contrast with the former magnificent Mameluke garb, stiff with gold and jewels, and now worn by none save Jussuf, a commander in the Christian army of the French at Algiers. The suburbs of Tunis are horrible. I passed them with *vinaigre de quatre voleurs* (thieves' vinegar) held to my nostrils, for the dreadful stench of oil everywhere boiling, and the insupportable emanations from a sewer (open probably), running round the town, actually poison the atmosphere.

The reigning Bey was dying when our traveller arrived, but agreed, nevertheless, to receive him. The Prussians have no consul at Tunis, and the Dutch-Russian commercial diplomatist undertook Prince Pückler Muskau's presentation.

At ten o'clock in the morning we entered a cabriolet of the last century—none but the Bey being allowed to drive a four-wheeled carriage,—and found it no easy matter to make our way, with our crazy vehicle, through the dealers in oranges and vegetables, and the mass of spectators, attracted probably by the novel spectacle of my Prussian regiments. * Before the entrance to the Bardo (the Bey's villa palace) we found some tents pitched, beside which were picketed by the feet to a long rope the horses

of the Bey and his attendants. Few of them were handsome, or showed blood. * * We entered a second, cleaner court-yard, adorned with various-coloured marble, with painting, and glazed tiles, and with a fountain playing in the centre. Here we were received by the Bey's secretary-minister, an Italian and Christian, Signor Raffo, who led us into a matted-room, on the ground floor, round which ran a divan. * * In one corner was a cupboard, like those in which our housekeepers store their sugar, raisins, &c.; but this was a more important cupboard, being no other than the State-Paper Office.

Our Prince was first presented to the Bey's brother, Sidi Mustapha, who supplied his place during his illness. With this vicarious sovereign, who was well armed, our Prince and the consul shook hands, chatted, and drank coffee; then, retiring to Signor Raffo's apartment, waited until the invalid Bey should summon them. This occurred in half an hour, with an apology for the delay.

In a very elegant marble court I was received by the *Sapatapa* (the Chancellor and Premier), a young man, who looked stern and somewhat opinionated, and whose costume was the more striking to European eyes, from its perfect uniformity with that of the other courtiers—all, servants included, being dressed alike—[nearly the same as the troops' uniform]. A long gold watch-chain, with many trinkets, worn by the *Sapatapa*, and some of the greatest men, was the only mark of distinction. One principal object in the introduction of this dress is economy, which the *Sapatapa*, unlike his predecessor, studies.—[Accordingly, he had, it appears, paid off much public debt, and filled the Bey's coffers.] * * The hall through which we passed was filled with black eunuchs and French chambermaids; these last being engaged to nurse the invalid Bey, and prepare European broths for him. The apartment in which the Bey received us formed a truly theatrical picture. It was hung with gold-wrought crimson satin; the vaulted ceiling was gilt and gaudily painted. The walls were hung with weapons; to the right sabres and poniards, to the left fire-arms; all adorned with gold and silver, polished steel, diamonds, and other jewels. Above the arms was a sort of projection, thick set with valuable porcelain vases, and other rarities; and above these again was a garland of looking-glasses in gilt frames, which, so placed, had the oddest effect imaginable. Immediately below the arms, on either side, three ranges of divans, covered with rich crimson silk, descended by stages towards the middle of the room, where they left open merely a broad passage, laid with Persian carpets. On the lowest of these divans stood, in their stockings without shoes, the princes and chief courtiers, forming an avenue, at the end of which was seen the Bey, clad in a yellow caftan and a white turban, sitting on a white satin ottoman. He is a man of about sixty, with a silver beard, lively eyes, a long nose, and a sensible countenance, the expression of which, despite his illness, bespeaks his keen relish for all the pleasures of life. Indeed, his taste for pleasures, both those allowed and those prohibited to Mohammedans, is said to be the cause of his debilitated health. He twisted about a black rosary in his left hand, and neither he nor any of his attendants had arms. * * The Bey, like his brother, speaks a little Italian; and when I said I was but a novice in that language, he laughed and said we were well matched. He was most courteous, and his manners were winning.

The Bey chatted pleasantly upon the new organization of his troops, hunting, and the like; offering every facility and protection for his visitor's projected tour.

Meanwhile coffee, mixed with cocoa, was served in large cups of French china, upon a silver waiter. It was the best I have drunk in Barbary; but Tun-

sian etiquette requires the cup to be left half full.

* * When my Secretary and I had respectfully and thankfully shaken, for the last time, the hand of this affable Moslem sovereign, we withdrew. The Bey does not give a sign of dismissal, but one takes leave when one thinks it time.

These masculine court ceremonies are varied and relieved by the account which a consular lady gave our Prince of her presentation to the Bey's wife, and of the marriage of one of his daughters to the above-mentioned *Sapatapa*.

"In the castle yard (said the lady) we were received by the Bey's Secretary-Minister, and conducted to the door of the second court. At the double door of the harem two Mamelukes were stationed on guard; one of whom summoned an Italian interpreter, who invited us in. The room into which we were introduced was hung with gold-embroidered red satin; gilt bird-cages were suspended from the ceiling, and even here the walls were covered with weapons. Opposite to us, on an ottoman, sat the Bey's wife, richly but not tastefully dressed. She rose, received us with the words, 'Blessed be your entrance! and may you stay as long as is agreeable to you,' and made us sit beside her. Her arms and feet were bare; on the latter she wore small embroidered slippers, which so little came on to the foot, that she held them fast when she moved between the great toe and the one next to it. From our seat we looked through several rooms, in which were crowds of black and white female slaves, sitting on the ground, some chattering, others variously occupied. Altogether I must have seen upwards of a thousand."

"Two young Moorish girls now began a dance, too odious, indecent, and, to us, disgusting for description. * * We could look no longer, and rejoiced when the Princess led us into another room to partake of refreshments. Having been well instructed, I had dressed myself gaudily and strikingly, whilst my companions, happening to be in mourning, were all in black. I, therefore, pleased the Princess the best; she led me by the hand, and pressed me to eat. Our collation consisted of sweetmeats. * * When we had eaten enough, the remainder was packed into baskets, one of which was sent to each lady's house. Whilst we were eating, the Bey, his brother, and several of the Princes appeared, gazed curiously at us, and withdrew without speaking a word. Our visit ended by a tour through the harem, of which all the rooms were furnished alike; only a sleeping cabinet of the Bey's had anything remarkable, and of that the walls were decorated from top to bottom with small watches. The Princess accompanied us to the harem door.

"The wedding was far more interesting. The ceremonies were performed in a beautiful marble court of the harem, over which was spread a magnificent scarlet awning. At the door of every room were placed wax candles of a foot in diameter, and painted with red and green winding stripes. Over the fountain burnt hundreds of variegated lamps, and the whole scene recalled the Arabian tales. To the sound of music the bride, seated upon a cushion of gold brocade, was brought in by her brothers, and placed in an old-fashioned, very costly arm-chair, that stood in the centre of the court. Her dress was extraordinarily magnificent and heavy; the most remarkable parts being a diadem loaded with jewels, splendid anklets, and dazzling bracelets. Arms and feet were bare; the soles and a small portion of the sides of the latter, as well as the finger and toe nails, were coloured of a reddish brown with henna, and eye-brows and eye-lashes were dyed black. She appeared with closed eyes, which she was not allowed to open during the whole day; and the husband was not permitted to see her for the first three days of their marriage. Beside her stood two dancing-girls, and before her a negress with a colossal laced

basin, in which were deposited the presents of gold, jewels, and other valuables offered to her, whilst the nature of the gifts and the names of the givers were rehearsed aloud. Every two hours the bride was carried to her room upon the same cushion, new dressed, and brought back to her arm-chair. During this whole day the poor soul must not eat; so that, between fatigue, fasting, and the weight of her dress and jewels, she was repeatedly near fainting, when an old negress always put a pastille into her mouth, which evidently strengthened her. Our repast, as before, consisted of sweetmeats and pastry, coffee, chocolate, lemonade, &c.; but the Bey himself was more conversable upon the present occasion, playing the friendly host, often telling us the house was ours, to use at our pleasure. He himself took a candle to show us the bridal couch, of white satin, tastefully embroidered with gold, and which, on account of its height, was to be ascended by red satin steps. Suddenly the light he held went out, and we remained awhile in the dark; this was esteemed an evil omen. * * When the bridegroom is first admitted to the bride's presence, the custom is, that she should kiss his hand, and he place his foot upon hers, not as conjugal endearments, but in token of the husband's sovereignty. This Princess refused to conform to these customs, as unbecoming her birth."

During our traveller's stay at Tunis the sick Bey died, and, although he left sons, was succeeded by his brother Sidi Mustapha. The accession and the funeral are thus described:—

The *Sapata*, and the Chief of the Divan, a near relation of the Bey's, soon after his decease took Sidi Mustapha by the arm, and led him to the vacant throne. Here the new Bey must immediately administer justice; and should no plaintiff chance to be at hand, a Mameluke invents an impromptu lawsuit to satisfy this very significant ceremonial; and not till he has given sentence in a legal cause is the successor considered as regent. The Divan is then assembled, though now as mere a form as was the assembling of Napoleon's senate; the Divan acknowledges the new Bey, cannon are fired to announce his accession, the whole Court kisses his hand, and drinks coffee. * * The consuls were presented the same day, though their reception used to be deferred until the morrow; but, according to Tunisian etiquette, they only kissed the Bey's hand without being spoken to. This done, the Court assumes a truly mournful aspect; during many days not a Mameluke may shake, and in that division of the Bardo where the late Bey expired, no cooking is allowed for a whole month; the inmates must have their victuals dressed elsewhere. * * In the court, before the hall where lay the deceased Bey, sat, cross-legged, five or six hundred silent, newly-emancipated negroes, the custom being, that upon the death of a Bey, or of any member of the Bey's family, the slaves of the deceased are manumitted; and many grandees, as a mode of paying their court, manumit theirs likewise. * *

The coffin, painted yellow, was carried by the cooks of the Divan, preceded by the *Shauishes* of the Divan, wearing pasteboard helmets, with such enormous plumes of ostrich feathers, that a weak man must have sunk under the burthen. The bearers frequently relieved each other, their body seeming to be numerous; and their costume was not a little queer. It consisted of a tight blue caftan, with a gold-edged girdle, and a sort of rope of blue silk, which hung from the right shoulder down to the feet, bearing an immense bunch, like a besom, at each end. Their little round caps scarcely covering their bald pates, offered a good contrast to the feathered helmets. Their shoes, on the other hand, are twice as big and as strong as need be, having horse-shoes fairly nailed on to them. Round the coffin thronged pell-mell the 600 freed negroes, and 200 freed negroes. Each black carries a long stick, to the end of which was affixed his or her certificate of manumission; and this quantity of paper, with which the wind played, had a very odd appearance.

After the Negroes came the grand procession. First walked the Princes and Court-Officers, then the Ministers, Governors, Agas, &c. followed by the principal Moors of Tunis. After them came the Mamelukes of the first and second rank, the four guardians of the strangling cord, now called merely

body guards, and their chief all in the Janizary dress. The train ended in an ever-changing crowd of troops and of the populace.

At first starting, condemned malefactors and insolvent debtors rush upon the coffin, by touching which the former obtain their pardon, the latter the cancelling of their debts. A certain number are allowed to accomplish their object; the rest are gently repulsed. The noise, and the yell of the hired female mourners, who tear their faces and bosoms, are said to offer a frightful spectacle, as the procession issues from the Bardo. On these occasions the old fanaticism revives, and a Christian who should venture to appear as a spectator would incur great danger. With much difficulty I procured a place at a grated window, whence, in the Moorish garb, I saw the procession pass. The rest I was told by natives. Even this secret peeping is hazardous, and was severely punished by the Bey, whose obsequies were now celebrating, on the occasion of his mother's funeral. Some of the consuls had hired a room of a Christian physician, whence they saw the show. The thing was betrayed; the physician was heavily fined, after which the Bey sent workmen to wall up every door and window of his house on the street side, at the proprietor's cost, with a prohibition, under the severest penalties, ever again to open them.

When the first tumult is over, the procession is conducted with great decency. It makes three halts for prayer. The first at the shrine of the Saint, Sidi Abdallah Sherif, who is in high repute for his daily miracles. The second before the Cassba, where, sitting at the gate of the citadel, the Town-Governor awaits the procession; he rises and joins it as it approaches. The last is in the great mosque, which, originally a cathedral built by the Spaniards, still retains its old name of the Church of the Olive Tree.

Here solemn prayers are put up; all the Muftis and heads of the church attending. This act of devotion performed, the procession bends its course towards the family vault of Hassan Ben Ali, the founder of the reigning dynasty. Here, again, solemn prayers are said; after which the coffin is wrapped in a plain white cloth, and interred.

At his leave-taking audience, Semilasso Piucker Muskaun asked, and obtained permission to attend the new Bey to his justice business, which regularly occupies many hours of every day. He saw him new clad, in a crimson silk *Talar*, for the occasion, and followed in his train to the hall of justice.

Only the Bey and a few official scribes sit, every one else standing for as many hours as the audience lasts; but for me and my companions, as strangers, stools were placed to the right of the throne. The business began by a general kissing of the Bey's hand, which, as there chanced to be a number of Arab chiefs present, lasted full half an hour. During this time the Bey sat with outstretched hand, resting his elbow on his thigh, inasmuch as natives kiss not the back, but the palm of the hand. * * His highness took so little notice of the majority of kissers, that he was constantly talking with the persons around him. His familiars contented themselves with simply kissing his hand; but many, after the first kiss, pressed their broid upon his hand, and then kissed it again two or three times; all, however, displaying such tenderness and depth of feeling, as though the hand had been that of a mistress. Nevertheless, the *Bash-Hambi*, (Commander of the *Hambi*, a corps of 300 mounted officers), who stood on the left of the throne, held each kisser fast by the arm during the operation, to guard against the possibility of treason. The last kisser was the garrison baker, who, at the same time, presented the Pasha, as a soldier of the Padishah, with his military ration, of four small loaves. The Bey kissed the bread, ate a morsel of it, and said humbly, "May God preserve to me this daily gift."

When this was over, coffee was served to the court and principal persons; to the Bey alone was presented an eight or ten foot long pipe. When he had refreshed himself with a few whiffs, the administration of justice began. All passed at the Town-Governor's tribunal, which I had before attended; and many of the causes were equally insignificant, without apparently wearying the patience of the sovereign. * *

Beside the Bey, on the steps of the throne, stood his eldest son, Sidi Achmet Bey, a Prince six and twenty years of age, who, in the most markedly respectful manner, now handed his father his spectacles with which to read a petition, now held a silver basin for him to spit in, without showing any sense of shame in rendering these menial offices. To the left, a little beyond the *Bash-Hambi*, stood the new *Sapata*, who often left his post to converse with the litigants, and then report upon the case to the Bey. The cases despatched,—and none appeared to be postponed,—the *Sapata* at once tore up the papers relative to them.

But we must not confine our extracts wholly to the court; let us seek for traits of Moorish and Arab character. Of the arrogant intolerance of the Moors, we may take a slight sample from their treatment of the Jews.

There are said to be 700,000 Jews in the Barbary States. * * In Tunis, the insolence with which they are treated is gradually decreasing. Formerly no Jew might pass a mosque except barefoot; now I have never seen one pull off his shoes. But it is not long since that the Jews were reminded of their inferiority. They began to grow tired of the caps and three-cornered hats that they had constantly worn, and a few youthful innovators presumed to sport the round hat of the Christians. The Moors were indignant, and complained to the Pasha, who commanded the Jews to resume their three-cornered hats and their caps; enforcing his decree, by ordering that if any one should dare to appear in a round hat, the crown should be cut off with a sabre. A few such executions reduced the would-be fashionable children of Israel to submission.

The journey through the interior, as recorded by our self-engrossed traveller, gives little of national character, and that little in detached sentences. Arab negligence, in profiting by the bounties of nature and art, appears in the sterility proceeding from want of irrigation, while all the ancient provisions for the preservation and use of water are suffered to decay, and the cisterns are used for stables. Where water exists they idly waste it. The Prince says—

"During the whole day's journey we found no good water till within a mile or two of our night's quarters, when, in the midst of the plain, several rock-springs appeared. Here the Arabs water their cattle, and our exhausted animals refreshed themselves. Nothing could be easier than to fix a pump here. Of that no one thinks; and indefatigably, and dripping with perspiration, did one of our Arabs let down his water-skin—about the size of a small jug—and draw it up again, over and over again, till he had thus drained enough for our whole cavalcade. There is not even a basin to hold the water, when raised, so easy to form in the broad stone around the spring. Those who want water must form a basin for themselves in the earth, which absorbs and thus wastes much ere it will hold the water for the horses."

Having begun this notice with a Moorish wedding, we will end it with an Arab funeral and form of mourning.

We were riding carelessly down a ravine to water our horses at a brook announced as flowing through the glen, when we found ourselves amongst sixty or seventy mounted Arabs, who, had they been hostilely disposed, would probably have overpowered us. Luckily, it was only a riding funeral; the white-cloaks were unarmed, and all were of the race of the Caid in whose *Duar* (a village or encampment of Arabs) we meant to sleep. The corse of the young Sheik, whose funeral this was, wrapped in a red cloth, was thrown, like a calf, across the saddle of his own horse. The horse had no bridle, and was only guided by a mounted Sheik on each side. * *

In the evening we witnessed the mourning ceremonial, which is to last for a week. At sunrise and sunset all the women of the *Duar*, relieving each other, dance and sing for hours before the tent of the deceased, whilst one of the number beats a dull-sounding drum. The same ceremony is repeated during the day, whenever a company of four mourners arrives, howling and shrieking, to express their sympathy. Such mourners, besides this compliment, receive a dish of *cuscus* with meat; but the same

mourners must be the more honest, because the more strange characters are executed, I tell you, but some of them

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mourners must not come twice. The more mourners the more honour to the family; and the more *cruca* the more mourners. * * The time of the music was often suddenly changed, which gave it a wild and strange character; and as the melody was correctly executed, I took great pleasure in the performance. * * We were not allowed to go near the dancing women, but I could see with my opera-glass that some of them were very pretty.

Materials for the History of Britain. Prepared for publication by Henry Petrie, Esq. Keeper of the Records in the Tower of London, &c. CONSIDERABLE interest having been excited respecting this work, in consequence of the statements given in evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, we shall endeavour to lay before our readers a succinct account of the origin, progress, and suspension of this really national undertaking.

The official commencement of this work resulted from an address of the House of Commons to the King, agreed to on the 24th of July, 1822. The address represented, "that the editions of the works of our ancient historians are incorrect and defective; that many of their writings still remain in manuscript, and in some cases in a single copy only; and that an uniform and convenient edition of the whole would be an undertaking conducive to the advancement of historical and constitutional knowledge." The active promoter of the design was Mr. Petrie, the Keeper of the Records in the Tower. Before him, Gibbon and Pinkerton had suggested a similar undertaking. For years previously to 1822, Mr. Petrie, without encouragement, and sustained only in his exertions by an honourable and ardent zeal, had, unaided, prosecuted his "darling object." We quote a passage from his evidence before the Record Committee, where, under wounded and injured feelings, he says—

"I have been engaged in pursuits of this sort between thirty and forty years. I cannot say that my hopes of being able to carry it (his design) into effect were, during many years, at all sanguine; public curiosity with respect to matters of this sort had become so rare, that there seemed little prospect of its being adopted; but I still pursued it as a darling object, in the hope that others might, in time think of it as I did; and with this feeling, in the year 1816, I put into the hands of a few friends a sort of outline of the plan I proposed to pursue. Before the application was made to Parliament, without noticing printed books, I had examined perhaps 1000 MSS. connected with the history of Britain. (3422.)"

Through the instrumentality of the late Earl Spencer, Lord Colchester, Mr. W. W. Wynne, and others, the proposal of giving effect to Mr. Petrie's voluntary labours was introduced to Parliament. In the debate on the address, Sir James Mackintosh named Mr. Petrie as the conductor of the work; and Mr. Hudson Gurney truly certified, on the same occasion, that gentleman as "gifted with extraordinary qualifications for the execution of such a task,"—as "coming to the work prepared by the labour of a life, and with a knowledge of his subject which probably had never been attained by any other individual."

Mr. Petrie accordingly became the conductor of the work, on behalf of the public instead of himself, in the year 1823; and the general superintendence of it was confided to the Record Commission. It does not appear that Mr. Petrie's labours, and the necessary expenses attendant thereon previously to this period, were in any way remunerated. The only difference arising from the new arrangement was, that the public undertook to pay the future expenses of the work, and that Mr. Petrie was subjected to the control of the Record Commission. That the perfection and excellence of his design was the object at Mr. Petrie's heart, may be fairly in-

ferrered from the fact, that instead of seizing the opportunity now afforded him of forthwith putting his already large collection of materials to press, and thereby displaying the extent of his labours, he continued with increased vigour his indefatigable scrutiny and patient exertions after new materials, never accepting any MS. as the best and most perfect, until he had subjected it to the test of comparison with every other copy known to exist.

"I have looked," says Mr. Petrie, (3419), "I believe at everything I could find.—Everywhere in this country; and I have also been searching in some parts of the continent; at Paris, Rouen, and the Netherlands; my searches here have only been bounded by the want of materials to examine.—Those searches were carried on at my own private expense, with the exception of one journey to Brussels in 1828, before there was any commission or any employment for that object."

Mr. Petrie's rate of progress has been censured as dilatory; but we must not forget the patient and laborious drudgery required to ensure that accuracy and completeness, so necessary in a great national work; and that at his outset, "so far," says he, "from finding a person able to assist me in the literary part of my work, I could not even find a transcriber." (3478.)

Mr. Petrie went to press with his first volume in 1830, which has been carried on to the extent of nearly 1000 pages. Its progress since the present Commission was issued has been very slow, chiefly in consequence of Mr. Petrie's ill health, and incidentally, perhaps, on account of the treatment he received. Here is one specimen. In 1832 a work was published by the Record Commission, entitled 'An Account of the Public Records.' In this work is to be found a collection of Mr. Petrie's papers, which were inserted therein, not only without his consent, but against his opinion.

"The first knowledge," says he, (3492), "I had of a design to print anything of the kind was by receiving from the Secretary a proof-sheet of the list of manuscripts which I had caused to be transcribed for the work on which I was engaged, with a request on the part of the Commissioners, that I would correct it for the press. I was very much struck with this; and I wrote to the Secretary to request he would furnish me with a copy of the order of the Board for the printing of this list; but I never got any answer from him. I was told he had never received my letter, but he never repeated his application to me for the proof-sheet, which I have in my pocket; so that whether the whole of this be surreptitious, or whether it had the authority of the Board up to this moment, I know not. The impression on my mind is, that it is surreptitious."

Under such an impression, no one can wonder that Mr. Petrie should be rather shy in his dealings with the Board; a suspicion indeed seems to have been awakened, we know not how justly, that it was intended, if possible, to suspend the work he was engaged on altogether, or to irritate him into a resignation. But before we speak of the suspension, we must notice one or two other circumstances: by some means the very proof-sheets of Mr. Petrie's work were procured from the King's printers, whilst undergoing the process of correction, and were sent abroad, for what purpose can of course only be conjectured. (3468.)

Another transaction we shall report in the words of the witness,—premising only, that a volume entitled 'Appendix C.' † had been printed, in which appears an historical poem, with the conjectural emendations of Mr. Petrie.

"3455. Did you get at Brussels a poem called

† Appendix C., besides the plagiarism of Mr. Petrie's poem, contains a number of transcripts sent from Hamburg. (313.) "All of these," the Committee's Report states, "from the evidence of Mr. Hardy appear, as far as he had had time to collate them, to be enrolled at the Tower; sometimes even more available counterparts of such documents exist in the Tower, and other Record Offices in London."

'De bello Normannico'?—I got the poem called 'De bello Hastings' there; it is standing in type; it has not been worked off.

"3456. Do you know the utility of printing it again in this work?—I cannot tell.

"3457. Did you know it was going to be printed in this work?—No; I have heard of it lately. I went to Brussels in 1828, purposely to transcribe that poem.

"3458. That poem is printed in your work?—It has been standing in type for the last three years.

"3461. Are those conjectural emendations chiefly yours?—As far as I see at present they appear to be mine; that for example is mine, and I should very much question whether the same emendation would occur to two persons because it is come at by a very peculiar process. In the text it is read 'Chrison-tana'; we could make nothing of that; but by supposing the first stroke of the *n* a little elongated, it would then make an *l*, and the next would make an *i*, and we should then have the word 'Chrisolitana.'

"3463. Then the result of this is, that this is not a copy from the MS. at Brussels, but from your printed copy?—My conjecture is, from a variety of circumstances, that this has been printed from my edition standing in type.

"3495. But the work which you yourself originally transcribed and amended, appears to be printed in a work of the Commission, from your corrections, without any mention of their obligations to you for it, and with Mr. Cooper's name at the bottom of the page?—It appears to me, that my future edition has been resorted to, at least for the emendations;—and Mr. Petrie assigns his reasons for this opinion.

It appears also that the Board, whilst Mr. Petrie was seeking materials for the 'History of Britain,' actually expended some thousands of pounds in the same object, without once communicating its proceeding to the gentleman best informed on the subject. We quote a few passages from Mr. Petrie's evidence on this point.

"Do you not know that collections have been making for some time, by the Secretary ‡ on the continent, partly for the purpose of aiding you in your work?—I know nothing of it.

"3432. This aid that the Commission was preparing to give you was kept a profound secret from you?—Entirely so; it is a secret to me at this moment, except that you are telling me that researches were going on for that purpose.

"3433. There was no co-operation between you and the Secretary upon the subject?—Never.

"3437. If he had found in foreign libraries valuable materials, would it not have been serviceable to communicate them to you?—Certainly.

"3438. How can you account for his not communicating them to the person to whom they would be most valuable?—I cannot form a conjecture; when I heard of it it seemed to me very strange."

We shall now show under what circumstances Mr. Petrie's work was suspended.

"In January 1834," says Mr. Petrie, "during the worst of my illness, I received a letter from the Secretary, desiring to know when the volume was likely to be completed; and my answer was, that my health was then in such a state as not to allow me to form a conjecture as to the time of its completion." In the month of June, 1835, "The Secretary wrote a letter to Mr. Sharpe, my brother-in-law and co-editor, requesting him to urge me to complete the volume forthwith, or the Board would be under the necessity of taking the work out of my hands. I am at liberty to say, that in consequence of that letter, I called on Mr. W. W. Wynne, a member of the Commission, for as the letter contained a threat, I could not notice it publicly to the Board, except by sending in my resignation, and I explained to him what my feelings were on the subject. I admitted at once, that I had gone on much slower than I had hoped for, but still that I had gone on as fast as I could, and that no intermission of my labours had recently, or ever taken place when I was able to work." (3406.)

The General Report of the Commissioners, lately printed, clears up all doubt as to the responsibility of these measures. "The office of collecting these supplementary documents was committed to the Secretary, who not only caused searches to be made at home, but, with our concurrence and sanction, instituted extensive inquiries on the continent of Europe."

On the 17th of August, 1835, without giving any intimation of so doing to Mr. Petrie, the Board sent a communication to the Treasury, which it called a "statement of facts," and, strange as it may appear, this "statement of facts," professing to account for Mr. Petrie's delay, made no mention whatever of the principal cause of the delay, viz. the state of his health. (3417.) And what is still more strange, no notice was given to Mr. Petrie of the Treasury's acquiescence in the "statement of facts" sent by the Commission, until the conduct of the Commission was the subject of inquiry by the House of Commons. Though the Treasury had replied to the "statement of facts" on the 29th of August, the answer was not communicated to Mr. Petrie until the 22nd of April following, a period of nearly nine months! Thus the 'Materials for the British Historian' remain at the mercy of the Record Commission.

Here then we have given, in brief, an account of the origin, the progress, and present state of this important work. We have so far as possible refrained from all comment,—but may be allowed to express our hearty concurrence in the recommendation of the Committee, that the "execution of this national undertaking should be resumed at once with renewed vigour, and with such increased number of editors and literary assistants as may be necessary, and that a special grant should be yearly voted by Parliament, of such amount as may suffice to ensure its completion at the earliest period consistent with the correctness and completeness of its execution."

Connexion of Sacred and Profane History. By the Rev. Dr. Russell. Vol. III. Rivington.

THERE are few authors in whose works research is more happily united with simplicity of style and popular illustration than Dr. Russell's; his volumes on Egypt and Nubia, published in the 'Edinburgh Cabinet Library,' are valued by scholars, and admired by general readers, and the work which he has now completed will add to his fame. The subjects principally discussed in the volume before us are the literary and commercial relations of the Israelites with the most renowned nations of antiquity. On the first of these topics he has dwelt at a length which might be deemed disproportionate, had not some recent works opened new paths of investigation which deserve to be examined.

Most writers have agreed, that the invention of alphabets, like every other invention with which we are acquainted, was gradual. Ideas were first represented by rude pictures; these for convenience were changed into conventional signs; and finally the necessity of representing sounds as well as visible objects, led to various contrivances in the use of the signs, which at length terminated in the formation of one or more alphabets. It is not our intention to be drawn on this occasion into a partial consideration of these interesting subjects, but fully to consider it, and forthwith, in a distinct paper; in the meantime we may briefly notice a few leading facts.

The ancient connexion between the Egyptians and the Israelites is unquestionable; and the masters, it may be presumed, must have impressed marks of the type of their civilization on those who were so long their servants; indeed, it is not obscurely intimated in the Pentateuch, that Moses derived some of the principles of his legislation from the code of the Pharaohs. Traces of this connexion are also discoverable in the structure of the Hebrew language: all its grammatical forms show it to be the language of transition between the obscure brevity of hieroglyphic and the fullness of written communication. The inflexible root is the im-

mutable symbol or hieroglyphic; the fragments of roots, which are placed before or after to express the gender, tense, &c. are in effect the more common hieroglyphics, by which the Egyptians, the Chinese, and the Mexicans, similarly modified the principal idea. From the same cause arises the paucity of radical words in that language, the use of very bold, and perhaps forced metaphors, the frequent omission of connecting words, and the consequent obscurity of passages in which the relation between the principal ideas has to be supplied by conjecture. Many parts of the Pentateuch, and nearly the whole book of Job, have the appearance of being either direct translations from a hieroglyphic record, or of being composed by a person to whom hieroglyphic writing was more familiar than alphabetical. Hence it is not improbable that the study of Egyptian antiquities, and the study of Hebrew literature, may mutually illustrate each other, and may tend to explain the origin of alphabets.

The commercial relations of the Israelites became important only in the reign of Solomon, and owed their extension chiefly to that monarch's connexion with the Sidonians. Dr. Russell has therefore wisely directed his attention to the Phenician trade, and collected the best information respecting Tyre, the great commercial mart of antiquity, which ancient records or modern research could supply. We have on several occasions shown that examinations of the ancient trading routes may prove beneficial to the traffic of the present day; and we are glad to find that many of our best scholars are devoting themselves to the investigation, and bringing the researches of the closet to bear on actual life and business.

We have very briefly noticed the most novel points in Dr. Russell's valuable work; and we take our leave of it, trusting that it may meet the success which its merits deserve.

Crichton. By W. Harrison Ainsworth, Esq., Author of 'Rookwood.' 3 vols. Bentley.

THE world, in its innocence, still believeth strange things. Some, for instance, are persuaded that criticism is a trade, and opinion a commodity—others again, with a credulity more flattering, regard all that is put in print, and in all prints, as oracular; and, accepting or denouncing whatsoever the keepers of their consciences accept or denounce, faintly but faithfully echo back their sounding words, and shape their studies accordingly. This latter class, trusting in panegyrics put forth some four months since, no doubt believed that 'Crichton' was then rejoicing in the full blaze of Fame which awaits a successful published work—and that we, not Mr. Ainsworth, were tardy in our appearing. To set ourselves right we need only state, that we have always been of opinion that the perusal of the closing volume of a romance is absolutely necessary to enable us to form a judgment on its merit as a work of art—and that, having only received two-thirds of 'Crichton' at the time referred to, we quietly laid them aside, to await the remainder, *then not printed*:—this latter only reached us on Tuesday. We have said thus much in our own justification, not in censure of others—least of all Mr. Ainsworth. It was natural enough that, conscious of the expectations raised by the success of his first novel, and the announced title of his second, he should be anxious to retouch and reconsider, especially that part of his story so often neglected by romancers—its catastrophe. Too many a clever work is spoilt for want of patient labour and self-respect on the part of its creator.

'Crichton' assuredly is a work of high pretension, whether as regards the choice of its

subject, or the manner in which that subject is treated. A finer field for the romancer's use could hardly have been selected than the court of Henri Trois: in the foreground its masquerade of figures, gorgeous and mysterious—the voluptuous Marguerite of Valois, and the inscrutable Catherine de Medicis, dogged by her creature Ruggieri—and Brantome and Ronsard, and the crew of lively courtiers and court beauties hardly less liberal: and in the background, the Huguenots—a stern and pale group—whose miseries and endurance furnish a fine contrast to the artificial and corrupt scenes of court revel and intrigue:—a better field could hardly have been selected, even had the novelist not chosen to make this vivid phantasmagoria revolve round one central figure of surpassing brilliancy and interest—that figure being one as prompt in the lists as he was popular in hall and bower—one as deeply learned as he was courteous, and as richly endowed with personal beauty as with learning—no less a personage than Europe's one perfect gentleman, "Crichton the admirable."

There is genius manifest even in fixing on such a subject, but a greater genius was required to work it out adequately; and it is no disparagement to Mr. Ainsworth to say, that he has only partially succeeded. He has wrought out his effects rather by a laborious and somewhat ostentatious accumulation of details, than by a bold, powerful, and masterly grouping and delineation of one principal subject, leaving minor matters to arrange themselves in the cold shadows of the background. 'Crichton' reminds us of the historical pictures of Paul Veronese, in which the accessories are often obtrusive and overpowering. Further to illustrate our position, we may observe, that Scott in his 'Kenilworth,' and Bulwer in his 'Rienzi,' wrote because they were filled—one with the spirit of the time, the other with the mind of his hero: Mr. Ainsworth, on the other hand, because he wished to write, has filled himself with names and dates, and facts and anecdotes, with the songs of Ronsard, and the witticisms of Rabelais, and the costumes of the old French court wardrobe. He is laudably anxious to be exact, but, having once satisfied himself that he was so, he should have taken it for granted that his reader *must* be satisfied also, and not have overlaid his pages with scraps of history and quotation and anecdote. Neither was it necessary to the *semblance* of his songs, that they should so curiously resemble the paraphrases of Father Prout—excellent in their antiquarianism, but in this very excellence opposed to the spirit of Fiction, whose right vocation it is, not to show us a museum of old things, but to make us ourselves feel old—whose spell, indeed, may carry us back among the noble dead, but cannot bring them to us. It is in the want of this spell that Mr. Ainsworth fails. To compare again: do all his most elaborate scenes and dialogues satisfy us of the subtlety of that fiend-woman, Catherine de Medicis, so thoroughly as the one simple speech artlessly dropped by Scott, in describing the night-ride from Lochleven, acquaints us with the fascinations of the Flower of Scotland—"Queen Mary needed Rosabelle, and Rosabelle is here!" Let us, however, not speak without proof; here is the author's full-length of his incomparable hero:—

"The countenance of Crichton was one that Phidias might have pourtrayed, so nearly did it elevated and ennobled character of beauty approach to the ideal standard of perfection erected by the great Athenian sculptor. Chiselled like those of some ancient head of the Delphic God, the features were wrought with the utmost fineness and precision—the contour of the face was classical and harmonious—the *mens divinior* breathed from every lineament—the lips were firm, full, and fraught with sensibility, yet giving token of the most dauntless resolution—

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the chin was proudly curved—the nose Grecian—the nostril thin and haughty as that of an unbroken bark of the desert—the brow was ample and majestic, shaded by hair of lightest brown, disposed in thick ringlets after the manner of the antique. There was a brilliancy of colour and a sparkling freshness in Crichton's complexion, the more surprising, as the pallid hue, and debilitated look of the toil-worn student might more naturally be expected in his features than the rosy bloom of health. In compliance with the fashion of the day, a slight moustache feathered his upper lip, and a short, pointed beard, clothed his chin and added to the grave manliness of his aspect.

"One blemish, if such it could with propriety be termed, existed in Crichton's physiognomy. Around his right eye was stamped a faint roseate mark, as is evidenced by Aldus Manutius, who, in his dedication to Crichton, of the Paradoxes of Cicero has said, *'cum te omnes signo rubore rose, quod tibi Natura circa dectrum lumen impressit, tanquam unicam et raram in terris aveni, homines cognoscerent.'* This defect would scarcely be worth mentioning, inasmuch as it by no means detracted from the beauty and expression of his countenance, and, indeed, could scarcely be detected except by very near observance, were not its statement necessary to the perfect individuality of the portrait which we wish to present to the reader.

Crichton's attire, which partook more of his chivalrous than of his scholastic character, was that of a complete cavalier of the period, and was calculated to display to its utmost advantage the faultless symmetry of figure with which Nature, not less lavish than Art and Science in her gifts, had endowed him. A doublet of white damask, slashed with black bands of the same material, crossed by other bands so as to form a sort of grating, buttoned from the throat to the girdle, and fitting closely to the person, revealed the outline of his full Antinous-like chest, as well as his slender circumference of waist; while the just proportions of his lower limbs were as accurately defined by the satin hauts-de-chausses, similar in colour to his doublet, and similarly slashed, in which they were enveloped. A short and singularly cut Spanish cloak of black velvet, edged with gold lace, hung from his left shoulder, and descended as low as the elbow. His arms were a rapier and poignard suspended from a richly ornamented girdle. Boots of buff-skin, sharply pointed at the toe, as was then the mode, were fitted upon feet that seemed almost diminutive in comparison with the lofty stature of the wearer. His broad-rimmed, steeple-crowned hat of black felt was looped with a diamond buckle, and crested by a single green feather.

"To the modern observer perhaps the triple folds of his ruff and the voluminous width of his sleeve might appear formal and redundant; but these exuberances were then altogether unnoticed, or possibly regarded with as much complacency as a sleeve à gigot might be at the present time. In sooth, despite its stiffness and extravagance, there was something picturesque and imposing in the court costume of Henri III. (who, if he had no especial genius for monarchy, had unquestionably a great talent for the toilet), that amply redeemed its incongruities of taste. Crichton's figure, however, owed little to the adventitious circumstance of dress, and in fact was wholly independent of it."

Even here it will be seen that Mr. Ainsworth cannot refrain from buckling himself with authorities, and availing himself of the aid of "Phidias and the Delphic God" to make his portrait breathe and live. A like strain runs through all his descriptions, if we except that of tough Simon Blount, with his bull-dog Druid—a quadruped, by the way, hardly less notable than "bonny black Bess" herself. The chin of the Geloso, we read, was "as if fashioned by him who should carve a Hebe"—Esclairmonde, the heroine of the tale, owns "a slight dimple, in which a thousand Cupids might bask." Again: it was Mr. Ainsworth's purpose to make Rugiorgi as repulsive and awe-inspiring as possible; mark the contrivance—"over his eyes, which otherwise possessed a strange and supernatural lustre, was drawn a sort of film, which seemed

to shade them, like those of the eagle, from the garish light of day." This use of far-fetched allusion—this resolution to be striking by the aid of prodigies, is a sign assuredly not of strength, but the very essence of which is simplicity.

The same propensity to amplify and exaggerate is equally manifest in the incidents and the language of this romance. Of the former, we shall presently give a specimen in one of the most striking scenes which the novel contains; of the dialogue we may observe, that it is, at times, positively retarded by digressions, as witness the interview between Catherine de Medicis and the hero, at the commencement of the third volume, wherein, in a moment of terrible suspense and mystery, he indulges in a long rhapsody concerning Protestantism, and is excited, by the bribe of a marchal's baton, to break forth in a burst of almost lyric enthusiasm, which assuredly befits not a colloquy in which life and death, treason and murder, are the slightest matters discoursed upon. At other times, it is inflated with equal lack of probability. Take an instance from the bull-fight—one of the most breathless scenes in the book—where the infuriated animal, having broken loose, rushes upon the king, and is only stayed by an exertion of Crichton's almost superhuman strength:—"Amid the turmoil that ensued, the voice of the Scot was heard sternly exclaiming, 'Let no one touch him, I will achieve his subjection alone.'"

This is not mere word-catching: but we cannot better illustrate our judgment of this clever book than by drawing examples from it thus at random. We could add some hundred more, but our readers, we suspect, would rather hear Mr. Ainsworth than the *Athenæum*—we will therefore treat them with a scene. To understand it, they must suppose that Crichton and a hapless Italian girl have, by a complication of incidents, fallen into the clutches of hired assassins, employed by Catherine de Medicis; the scene of their peril being the observatory attached to the Hotel de Soissons:—

"Sustaining the terrified girl, who was so much exhausted as to be wholly unable to assist herself, within his arms, Crichton rapidly threaded the steps of the column. He arrived at the summit, and gently depositing Ginevra upon the roof, stood with his dagger in hand prepared to strike down the first of his assailants who should appear at the mouth of the staircase. The cold fresh air now playing upon her cheek, in some degree revived the Geloso. She endeavoured to raise herself, but her strength was unequal to the effort. At this moment an outcry was heard below. It was the voice of Blount, calling to his dog. Crichton uttered an exclamation of delight. The packet had reached its destination—it would be delivered to Esclairmonde. Scarcely had this thought passed through his mind, when the sudden report of an arquebus was heard—succeeded by a deep howl. Blount's shouts, mingled with those of Ogilvy, arose loud and stunning. The clash of swords succeeded. Crichton could no longer resist the impulse that prompted him to glance at the combatants. He leaned over the edge of the pillar, but all that he could discern was the Englishman engaged in sharp conflict with several armed figures, partially concealed from his view by the intervening shrubs of the garden. Druid was by his side, foaming, furious, and with his teeth fastened upon one of his master's assailants. The scarf was gone. But whether or not it was in Blount's possession, he was unable to ascertain. As he turned in doubt and some dejection towards the trap-door, his eye chanced upon a coil of rope attached to one of the links constituting the larger hemisphere of iron bars by which he was surrounded. A means of escape at once presented itself to his imagination. Swift as though he tried the durability of the cord. It was of strength sufficient to sustain his weight; and of more than sufficient extent to enable him to reach the ground. He uttered an exclamation of joy; but he suddenly checked himself. The plan

was relinquished as soon as formed. He could not abandon the Geloso.

"Ginevra divined his intentions. Collecting all her energies, she threw herself at his feet, beseeching him to avail himself of the opportunity that presented itself of safety by flight.

"'And leave you here to fall into the hands of your pursuers—of Gonzaga—never,' replied Crichton.

"'Heed me not—heed me not—noble and dear Signor,' replied the Geloso. 'I have my means of escape likewise—go—go—I implore of you. What is my life to yours? By the Virgin!' continued she, with passionate earnestness, 'if you do not obey me, I will fling myself headlong from this pillar, and free you from restraint, and myself from persecution.'

"Saying which she advanced to the brink of the column, as if resolved upon putting her threat into instant execution.

"'Hold, hold, Ginevra,' exclaimed Crichton—"we may both avoid our foes. Give me thy hand, rash girl,"—and ere she could advance another footstep, the Scot detained her with a powerful grasp. Ginevra sank unresistingly into his arms. Crichton's next proceeding was to make fast the trap-door; the bolt of which presented such feeble resistance to the Herculean shoulders of Loupgarou. He then threw the cord over the edge of the column, and advanced to the brink to see that it had fallen to the ground. As he did so he was perceived and recognized by Ogilvy, who hailed him with a loud shout, but as that doughty Scot was engaged hand to hand with a couple of assailants, he was not in a condition to render his patron any efficient assistance. Having ascertained that the cord had dropped in the way he thought desirable, Crichton again assured himself of the firmness of the knot, and placing his dagger between his teeth, to be ready for instant service on reaching the ground, and twining his left arm securely round the person of the Geloso, whose supplications to be abandoned to her fate were unheeded, he grasped the rope tightly with his right hand, and leaning over the entablature of the column, pushed himself deliberately over its ledge.

"For moment the rope vibrated with the shock; and as she found herself thus swinging to and fro in mid air, Ginevra could scarcely repress a scream. Her brain reeled as she gazed dizzily downwards, and perceived the space that intervened between her and the earth. Her head involuntarily sank over her shoulder, and she closed her eyes. Had her safety depended on her own powers of tenacity, she had certainly fallen.

"The rope, meanwhile, continued its oscillations. With one arm only disengaged, and the other encumbered by his fair burthen, it was almost impossible for Crichton to steady it. The architrave and frieze which crowned its capital projected nearly two feet beyond the body of the shaft. For some time he could neither reach the sides of the pillar so as to steady his course by its fluted channels, nor would he venture to trust himself to the guidance of the shifting cord. His peril appeared imminent. The strain upon the muscles was too great to be long endured. But Crichton's energies were inexhaustible, and his grip continued unrelaxing. At length, after various ineffectual efforts, he succeeded in twining his legs securely round the rope, and was about to descend, when an incident occurred which rendered his situation yet more perilous.

"Filled with astonishment at the daring attempt they witnessed, as Crichton launched himself from the column, the combatants beneath—friend and foe, as if by mutual consent,—suspended hostilities. It was afeat of such hair-breadth risk, that all gave him up for lost. But, when he had made good his hold, their admiration knew no bounds. Blount loudly hurrasd, and threw his cap into the air. Even the adverse party uttered a murmur of applause. Ogilvy rushed forward to seize and secure the rope—and all had been well, but at the same moment he was grappled by one of his antagonists, and in the struggle which ensued, the cord was so violently shaken, that Crichton had need of all his vigour to maintain his position. The rope twisted round and round—but contriving, in the gyrations which he performed, to insert the point of his foot in the fluting of the pillar, he once more regained his equilibrium.

"Villain," cried Ogilvy, as he threw his enemy to the earth, and plunged his dirk within his bosom—"thou at least shalt reap the reward of thy treachery.—Ah! what is this?" cried he, as from the folds of a scarf, which had dropped from the man's grasp, a packet of letters met his view. He was about to pick them up, when his attention was diverted by a loud cry from Blount.

"Ha!—have a care!—noble Crichton, shouted the Englishman.—have a care! I say. Saint Dunstan and Saint Thomas, and all other good saints, protect thee!—Desist—craven hound, what wouldst thou do? The curse of Saint Withold upon thee?"—The latter part of Blount's ejaculation was addressed to Loupgarou, whose huge person might now be discovered leaning over the architrave of the pillar, and who was preparing to cut the rope asunder with his sword.—"Oh for a sling!" roared Blount, "to smite that accursed Philistine betwixt the temples."

"Directed by these outcries, and, at the same time, perceiving the effect of a blow upon the rope, Crichton looked upwards. He beheld the malignant and exulting aspect of Loupgarou, who, it is needless to say, through the agency of Caravaja, had discovered the mode of flight adopted by the Scot, and instantly resolved upon the only revenge in his power. It was evident from his gestures and ferocious laughter, that the Giant had resolved to exercise his utmost ingenuity in torturing his enemy. Before he attempted to sever the cord he shook it with all his force—jerking it vehemently, first on the right hand, and then on the left; but finding he could not succeed in dislodging the tenacious Scot, he had recourse to another expedient. Taking firmly hold of the iron bar, by dint of great exertion, he contrived to pull the cord up several feet. Uttering a loud yell, he let it suddenly drop. Still Crichton, though greatly shaken, maintained his hold. Loupgarou then proceeded slowly to saw the cord with his sword. Crichton gazed downwards. He was still more than sixty feet from the ground.

"Ho! ho!" bellowed Loupgarou, "not so fast, fair Sir—qui vult perire pereat—ho—ho, you shall reach the ground without further efforts of your own, and somewhat more expeditiously—sternitur exanimisque tremens procumbit humi—ho! ho!—"

"That fate shall be thy own, huge ox," screamed a shrill voice (it was that of Chicot) in his ear.—"Ho—ho," laughed the Jester, as the giant, whom he pushed forward with all his might, rolled heavily upon the entablature—not so fast—not so fast—my Titan."

"Quién adelante no mira, atrás se queda," exclaimed Caravaja, springing upon the Jester with the intent of pushing him upon the giant—"thou shalt reverse the proverb—look first and leap after." The words, however, were scarcely out of his mouth, when he found himself seized by the Vicomte de Joyeuse, who suddenly appeared on the roof of the column.

Loupgarou made an effort to grasp at the architrave of the pillar as he was precipitated over it—and then at the rope—but he missed both. His great weight accelerated his fall. He descended head foremost. His scull came in contact with the sharp projecting edge of the plinth, which shattered it at once; and his huge frame lay without sense upon the pavement of the court just as Crichton and his now senseless burthen alighted in safety upon the ground."

We have left ourselves no room to speak of the characters which figure in this romance,—the strength of which, indeed, lies rather in the complication of incident than the delineation of humanity; nor to draw upon it for a specimen of the songs which it contains, most of which, as we have before hinted, sound as if they had been stolen out of the chest of Watergrass Hill.—"Crichton" is a great improvement upon "Rookwood;" and if Mr. Ainsworth bestow as much care and pains on his next novel, he may arrive at that point of high excellence which he has here earnestly tried to reach.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Select Specimens of Gothic Architecture, by W. Caveler, Architect. Part IV. 4to.—We have repeatedly observed, that mere details are not what is now wanted for the illustration of Gothic architecture; a door from one edifice, a window from another, a cloister from a cathedral, a screen or a tower from a college or a church, will not satisfy the desire for information, as regards Gothic monuments of art.

We want whole edifices, with all their dependencies and subordinate parts complete, in order to understand the principles of composition which directed the Gothic architect. We are weary of noticing mere fragmental illustrations, however ably executed; we are convinced that they are of little use to the architect, and, what is worse, that they occupy the time, attention, and talents of able men, which, if directed to more important objects, would acquire for them reputation and profit, little of which we apprehend is to be gained by mere books of specimens.

The present Part completes the series of illustrations, which Mr. Caveler prescribed to himself at the outset. He subdivides his examples into five periods; the Anglo-Norman previous to 1189; the early English to 1307; the decorated English to 1382; the perpendicular English to 1461; and the Tudor to 1530-40: in this last instance only departing from the classification of Rickman, by subdividing the perpendicular English period of that author into two, the latter of which Mr. Caveler denominates Tudor. As regards classification, we cannot but concur with him in this subdivision, and we think the term an appropriate one, as there is certainly a marked distinction between the style of Henry VII. and that of the period immediately preceding his reign.—There has been too great inequality in the execution of the plates in this work: those in the first Part were but indifferently engraved, the second and third Parts however were enriched with admirable contributions by Le Keux; the concluding Part again has been entirely engraved by Mr. Caveler and Mr. Kennion; and though Mr. Caveler has improved, he is still deficient in clearness, precision, and spirit. This work contains illustrations from a church of great interest, but hitherto hardly known, that of Stone in Kent, containing some beautiful details of the early English of Henry III.'s time. In these Mr. Caveler appears to have stolen a march on the Topographical Society, who have announced a publication on the same building, a coincidence unfortunate for those engaged in both works, as well as for the lovers of architecture. Reverting to the remarks with which we set out, we may express a wish that the compilers of works on Gothic architecture would unite in the publication of a parallel of Gothic architecture, similar to Durand's on Egyptian, Greek and Roman architecture. They would thus render an essential service to art, and enter upon a speculation, the success of which cannot be for a moment problematical. The success of Durand's work was so decided, that it is now out of print, and a new edition is, we understand, about to appear at Venice. The utility of such publications consists in their bringing under the eye, at one view and on one scale, all the edifices of a particular style, chronologically arranged, and developing the approximations and differences which exist in the buildings of each class.

The mutual Bearings of Philosophy and Religion.—Every effort that has been made to combine physical science with theology has ended in giving us bad philosophy and worse religion. Mr. Galloway, though more successful because less dogmatic than most of his predecessors, is scarcely an exception to the general rule; he is eloquent, ingenious, and persuasive, but he is not convincing. He does not see that there is an inconsistency in his reasoning from the very outset: the evidence for philosophy is observation, experiment, and inference; the evidence for religious truth is authority. If the truths of religion could be discovered by simple reason, revelation would have been unnecessary. Butler's Analogy is the only work in which the relations between physical and religious truths are satisfactorily stated, because he is satisfied with showing that they are not inconsistent, without attempting to unite them or infer one from the other. We regret that Mr. Galloway has devoted his time and talents to this hopeless subject, but we at the same time acknow-

ledge the ability manifested in this, we believe, his first literary essay.

Mammon.—Dr. Conquest, it appears, liberally offered a prize of one hundred guineas, together with the profits of the publication, for the best essay on the Sin of Covetousness, and there were no less than 143 candidates for the prize, which perhaps may serve as a proof of the justice of Dr. Conquest's suspicion that covetousness is the sin of the age. The prize was adjudged by the arbitrators, the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel and the Rev. Dr. Pye Smith, to the author of the volume before us. Mr. Harris has made the most of his limited subject, but, like the Bridgewater Treatises, the work has too much the appearance of having been written to order; there is occasionally a hesitation in following out principles to their full consequences, natural enough in an author who has to look forward to the judgment of individuals rather than the public.

Moretos on Civilization.—This little work is a clever analysis of the laws that regulate the number and condition of mankind; there is little novelty in the author's views, but they are clearly stated and ably supported. The examination of the Absente question is marked by a candour and fairness not always to be found in the writings of political economists.

Pasley on Optics and Motion.—The crude theories that float through the minds of ingenious men are never devoid of interest, for they have in countless instances led to valuable and unexpected results. We believe that Mr. Pasley is mistaken in supposing that he has discovered the physical cause of continuous motion, but he has incidentally developed some mechanical speculations which must render his book pleasing, if not useful, to those who take pleasure in physical theories.

Regeneration of Metaphysics.—The author complains that the study of metaphysics is unpopular, and that the critical press will do nothing for its revival. We regret that it is not in our power to make people believe that a topic, which the experience of ages has proved to be barren, will suddenly become fruitful, especially as the specimen before us is not such as to justify such an expectation.

Vizard's Principles of Philosophy and Divinity.—A series of speculations neither remarkable for their novelty nor their ingenuity.

Maitland's Voluntary System.—A caustic attack on the voluntary system, but more remarkable for bitterness than strength.

Goring and Prichard's Micrographia.—A description of recent improvements in the construction of microscopes and micrometers.

The old year 1837—now, already, in distance looking *very old*, died almost smothered by the crowd of small poets who dogged him during his latter days. A new choir has sprung up to bear his successor company. We have left it unattended to till it has become so numerous and importunate that our peace is concerned, and we cannot choose but listen to its music. This is sweet rather than strong; not a few of its strains are borrowed—some hardly worth borrowing; but shall we, therefore, frown sourly, and wish it silenced? No, truly—so long as there is a pleasure to be found in stringing rhymes together, so long as there exist home-circles to be pleased by the works of *their* genius. We will not dwell upon the hopes that *must* be destroyed by the process of publication—but, looking at the brighter side of things, content ourselves with pointing out beauties rather than anatomizing defects, and astounding the gentle and timid-spirited with that cheapest and least palatable of all gifts—good advice.

The first book which comes to our hand contains *Poems original and translated*, by Charles Percy Wyat, B.A.; the original poems comprising sonnets, ballads of all lands, and meditative pieces—the translations being chiefly devoted to the German poets: many of them are new versions of lyrics already familiar to us. The verse in general is smooth, pleasing, and gives tokens of cultivation. And here, as a specimen, is the larger portion of an untitled fragment—about the best thing in the volume.

The old bards
Hymned the bright streams that murmured to their song,
And decked their fountains; and thus paid
A glorious debt of endless gratitude
With their own strains coeval. They are gone,
Lords of the lyre! and countless generations,

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Yet streak a
Wilt roll thy
Shall bring to
Voiceless, and
Joyous and br
Gladdening; a
And not a sp
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The living, now the dead, have trodden o'er them :
Yet streams and fount flow on. And thou, fair river !
Wilt roll thy crystal waves when I no more
Shall bring to thee the boughs of my lyre,
Voiced, and buried with me : thou wilt flow
Joyous, and bright, these meads and ripening fields
Gleaming, as thou dost now ; and not a breath,
Gladdening not a spirit in thy fountain-caverns.
To tell thee of the love the poet bore thee.
(Oh ! thousand loves the dying poet leaves
That know not of his passion : the broad streams,
The old green forests with their shaded haunts;
The sunny plains and pastures, and the paths
Of lonely mountain, where his steps have trod
Exulting. Oh ! when ruthless fate shall call
From all he loved so well the hard way,
Can his heart part pangless from the scenes
Of such love and beauty ? how forget
These innocent flowers, those birds that in their joy
Fly singing 'mid the sunbeams ; the blithe morn,
And the rich sunset, and the hue of eve,
And night's innumerable pageantries ?
Oights and sounds how lovely ! Ye are they
That bind the dying poet, whilst his soul
Struggles 'twixt earth and Heaven ; and to his lyre
Pain would he raise his chill and drooping hand,
To strike one parting note, one fond farewell,
Longing, lingering. —Ye on earth
Have known his soul's enchantments, and should be
(and there regret have entrance) his regrets,
His memories in Heaven !

Poems, by Benjamin Street, Esq.—There is power and poetry (a rare thing in such collections) in this little volume, the greater portion of which is devoted to scriptural subjects—but a somewhat fantastic carelessness of language and rhythm, which ought to be amended. The reader will at once see what we mean by the following extracts—the first from ‘Moses on Mount Nebo.’

Yet, ere within his aged orbs
The light of this fair world was shaded,
And the mind's vivid flashes spent,
Ere the dull numbness that absorbs
Each sense and faculty, pervaded
The soul's ephemeral tenement ;
Upon his staff the prophet bending
Beheld the land to him forbidden,
While Angels on his steps attending
Reveal'd what'er lay dim or hidden
By shade or distance from the sight,
That from the lordly mountain's height
Could track the stream whose line of light

The earth's broad bosom vein'd ;
Where solitude in beauty dight
O'er glen and forest reign'd,
Enthroned on crags, whence sprung the vine,
And round the olive's dusky shoots
Had made its fibry ringlets twine,
Where lingering evening lov'd to shine
On basking leaves and purpling fruits,
And flowers that furnish'd to the bee,
Those crannied cliff's sole tenantry,
Through days of summer long and sunny
Their atoms of pellucid honey.

The second, a wood scene, concludes strangely, but is still a picture.

Here, so silent is the wood
And so deep the solitude,
That we may
Expect, as we sit and listen,
To see the eye of a fly
Through the rich foliage glisten ;
Peering quickly through,
Bright as an atom bead of dew ;
Whenever,

The light leaves are stirr'd
By the foot of the bird,
Or the touch of the river
Rapid and fresh,
Making the light boughs quiver,
As they immesh

The water-lily, whose crystal cup
The winds wavy, and the stream buoys up ;
For the river has wound
Its long arms around
This island spot of forest ground ;
And hill'd by the streamlet's ripple,
Fan'd by the gentle wind,
Here many a poet's mind
Fitly the solitude people ;
For who that perceives the infantine leaves
Burst from the branches hoary,
(Himself in his youth,) can question the truth
Of the legends of fairy story.

Flowers of Ebor, by Thomas Crossley.—Here is one who, from a retired nook of the north, sends forth a volume as agreeable as it is unassuming. The minute appearances of nature, the gentler affections, and the trivial incidents of daily domestic life, have furnished him with themes, and he sings them as one “possessing a conscience void of offence,” to whom it is natural to utter his impressions in rhyme, rather than as one who between every line pauses to wonder

whether ladies will admire, or critics flout. In short, the ‘Flowers of Ebor’ are healthy and natural—perhaps neither rare nor of glowing hue. We will take one specimen from the garland.

The Sleeping Infant.

How calm thy sleep, my little one !

Gift of a hand divine !

Care has no wreath to place upon

That lily brow of thine :

Yet on thy cheek are tears of grief,

Like pearl-drops on a flower ;

Frail emblems of thy sorrows brief

At evening's lonely hour.

Yet thou wilt wake to boundless glee

When dewy morn appears,

Nor e'er remember'd more will be

The bitter evening tears.

But what are these thy hopes which share ?—

Thy feeble hands which fill ?—

Thou'rt grasping with a miser's care

The little playthings still ;

Come yield to me each useless toy,

Till morn's young beams shall peep ;—

Nay, struggle not !—can't thou enjoy

These trifles in thy sleep ?

Slumber her silken plumes has fur'd

Around thy plump brows,

And yet an emblem of the world

Thou pictur'st to me now.

'Tis thus with man, whom old age brings

To life's declining vale,

He weeps at Time's stern call, and clings

To trifles just as frail !

List of New Books.—Campbell's (Thomas) Letters from the South, 2 vols. 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—Memoirs of the Rev. Rowland Hill, with preface by the Rev. James Sherman, 12mo. 8s. cl.—Faulkner's (Sir Arthur B.) Letters to Lord Brougham, post 8vo. 9s. bds.—The Spring, by Robert Mudie, 18mo. 5s. cl.—Larkins's (Rev. E. R.) Sermons on the Commandments, 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.—Debrett's Complete Peerage of the United Kingdom, corrected to the present time, cr. 8vo. 28s. cl.—Piccioli, or Captivity Captive, by M. de Saintine, 2 vols. post 8vo. 16s. bds.—Larduer's Cabinet Cyclopaedia, Vol. LXXXVIII. (Thirlwall's Greece, Vol. IV.) 6s. cl.—Faulkner's Correct Tables of Simple Interest, sq. 16mo. 5s. cl.—Shelford's Commutation of Tithes Act, 9s. bds.—Skeat's Medical Essays: Part I. ‘Phthisis Pulmonalis,’ 12mo. 3s. cl.—Gregory's Conspectus, sq. 5s. cl.—Familiar Description of Trees, 12mo. 3s. cl.—Brassey on the Genders of French Nouns and Substantives, 12mo. 2s. cl.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL FOR FEBRUARY.

KEPT BY THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY AT THE APARTMENTS OF

THE ROYAL SOCIETY, BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL.

| FEB. | 9 o'clock, A.M. | | 3 o'clock, P.M. | | Dew Point at 9 A.M., deg. Fahr. | External Thermometer. | | Rain in inches. Read off at 9 A.M. | Direction of the Wind at 9 A.M. | REMARKS. |
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| | Barometer. | | Barometer. | | | Fahrenheit. | Self-registering | | | |
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| 1837. | W 1 | 30.018 | 30.012 | 41.8 | 30.080 | 30.074 | 42.4 | .36 | 40.9 43.2 40.4 46.3 | .036 SE |
| T 2 | 30.292 | 30.288 | 42.4 | 30.302 | 30.298 | 44.2 | 36 | 41.5 44.9 41.1 44.3 | SSW | |
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| M 6 | 30.386 | 30.380 | 37.8 | 30.340 | 30.334 | 38.9 | 28 | 33.7 39.8 32.3 38.4 | E | |
| T 7 | 30.308 | 30.300 | 36.8 | 30.266 | 30.260 | 39.4 | 31 | 33.9 40.4 30.0 40.3 | E | |
| W 8 | 30.168 | 30.162 | 37.9 | 30.158 | 30.156 | 40.5 | 32 | 38.3 42.9 34.2 41.0 | S | |
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| ○ C 12 | 29.480 | 29.476 | 45.7 | 29.534 | 29.528 | 46.3 | 38 | 39.3 44.7 37.4 50.0 | .175 SSW | |
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| T 23 | 29.628 | 29.622 | 44.7 | 29.216 | 29.210 | 46.3 | 41 | 44.8 50.6 40.4 48.2 | WNW. | |
| F 24 | 29.744 | 29.740 | 43.7 | 29.862 | 29.856 | 45.2 | 35 | 40.3 43.3 36.0 51.2 | WSW | |
| S 25 | 30.104 | 30.100 | 41.2 | 30.146 | 30.140 | 42.5 | 33 | 35.7 40.4 34.0 44.2 | WNW. | |
| ○ C 26 | 30.206 | 30.200 | 39.2 | 30.182 | 30.178 | 40.9 | 30 | 34.4 39.4 31.9 40.7 | WNW. | |
| M 27 | 30.010 | 30.004 | 38.7 | 29.930 | 29.928 | 39.8 | 32 | 35.4 38.5 33.9 40.2 | W | |
| T 28 | 30.078 | 30.072 | 39.6 | 30.100 | 30.094 | 41.2 | 33 | 37.5 41.6 35.2 39.4 | N | |
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Correct height of Barometer, reduced to 3 P.M.
32° Fahr..... 29.927 29.889
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OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE
AND ART.

The Council of the Statistical Society of Glasgow have done us the honour to direct their Secretary to inform us, that "observing many valuable notices on Statistics" in the *Athenæum*, they intend that all future papers published by the Society shall be forwarded to us. We are of course flattered by this mark of approbation, but we advert with double pleasure to the circumstance, from observing the sound good sense with which the Society is prosecuting its labours. We had occasion lately, in speaking of national education (p. 121), to observe, that it was essential not only to the moral well-being, but to the prosperity of the country—that we were not to calculate the probabilities of success in the attempts of other nations to establish manufactoryes with exclusive reference to natural advantages, but that the knowledge and morality of the people were elements that must be taken into consideration; we were therefore gratified to find among the reported proceedings of the Society, that notice of a motion had been given by J. P. Nichol, Esq. Professor of Astronomy in the University of Glasgow, "To move for a Committee to collect materials for a statement of the chief kinds of manufacture which foreign nations produce, under present circumstances, at a cheaper rate than is possible in this country; discriminating in each case whether the superiority of the foreign nation springs from the operation of natural and fixed causes, or from the comparative knowledge, peculiar habits, or economical condition of its people; and endeavouring to ascertain in reference to the latter class of causes how the agencies of an advancing civilization—especially those agencies which alter the proportion of manual labour and fixed capital in the production of commodities—may be expected to remove or diminish our inferiority." From such inquiries, invaluable results must follow—they are the surest basis on which even legislation can rest.

We find it mentioned in the public papers, that the plan long talked of in Spain, for raising money, turns out to be the intended transmission of the valuable picture gallery (Museum) of Madrid to England, as a pledge for an advance to be solicited here, and the interest of which is to be paid out of the produce of the exhibition of this collection. We are confident the public would hail the arrival of this remarkable and almost inaccessible collection with great joy; its exhibition here, like that of the Orleans Gallery in 1798-9, would no doubt be very profitable. If the famous Raffaeli, which were some years since, we believe, at the Escorial, could be brought over likewise, the whole exhibition would make London worthy a pilgrimage, to every votary of art in the kingdom.—Apropos of art: is it true that the Coevelt collection has been sold to Russia? One picture at least, of the set, should not have been suffered to leave the kingdom at any price—we mean the celebrated *Alba* Raffaeli: it was the purest and finest easel specimen of this master we possessed. Such loss could not be supplied: pictures at St. Petersburg are, as respects civilized Europe, little better than if they were at Pekin. Yet the Coevelt has followed, it would seem, the Houghton collection, to that bourn from whence such travellers never return! We cannot help thinking it most unfortunate, that England should have no minister in its Government to superintend the interests of Education, literary and artistic.

This month we shall glean from one periodical rather than enumerate the contents of the mass. It may be remembered by those who have read Mr. Prior's Life of Goldsmith, that he concludes by quoting two passages from the *Quarterly Review*, the one written, he says, by the late Earl of Dudley and the other by Sir Walter Scott. On reading these, we, with a natural curiosity, turned to the articles referred to and were startled to find that the latter was an extract from a review of Miss Mitford's Poems written in a pert, smart, coxcombical style—such a review in fact as might rather have been laboured out by a young gentleman making a first critical essay, than struck off by such a man as Sir Walter Scott. But the fact seemed beyond all dispute, for Mr. Murray was the publisher of both works and was the best possible authority on the subject; and therefore, as if to make assurance

doubtless sure, the *Quarterly* confirmed it. Mr. Prior, it is there observed, "has been enabled to give the names of the two distinguished associates from whom the articles he cites proceeded, and certainly they will lose none of their weight by being thus affiliated." After this there could be no discussion, and we had treasured up our knowledge and our regrets together; when, lo! comes the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and a writer therein observes in reference to this subject, "The Author of the poet's life has quoted a passage from the *Quarterly Review*, which has mentioned, among other subjects of praise, the elegance of Goldsmith's transitions; and he has given, for what reason we cannot imagine, the article to Sir Walter Scott. The matter is of no consequence, except that it may possibly lead to this criticism being hereafter reckoned among the works of that illustrious writer. Sir W. Scott never wrote a line of it; it was written by a much humbler person, at the request of the then editor.—The Reviewer doubtless will be pleased to see that Mr. Prior thinks his Defence of Goldsmith worthy of a place in his volume. For it was written when he was young in years and literature." Now we desired only half word of encouragement to have ourselves disputed the fact even with the *Quarterly*, on the strength only of a comparison of style, but here is shown a minute knowledge of circumstances which strengthens our "foregone conclusion" almost to a certainty. It would be strange if, after all, it should prove that the *Quarterly* was in error!

We cannot quite let the magazines pass without another word, if only concerning the promises of new works they contain; these are strangely few in number. Among the most prominent are Mr. Bentley's announcements of a Life of Lord de Saumarez preparing by Sir John Ross—of a Life of the incomparable Mathews by the indefatigable Theodore Hook—and a hint of a translation of Prince Fückler Muskau's new travels. From another quarter, too, we hear that "the author of Hampden in the Nineteenth Century" is preparing a supplement to that work under the title of "Colloquies on Religion and Religious education."

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.

The Gallery for the Exhibition and Sale of the Works of BRITISH ARTISTS, is Open daily from 10 in the Morning until 5 in the Evening.—Admittance, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

ROYAL SOCIETY.

Feb. 23.—The Earl of Burlington, V.P. in the chair.

The reading of Dr. Marshall Hall's paper, entitled, "On the Function of the Medulla Oblongata and Medulla Spinalis, and on the Excito-motor System of Nerves," was resumed, but not concluded.

March 2.—William Lawrence, Esq. V.P. in the chair.

The reading of Dr. Marshall Hall's paper was concluded.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election as Foreign Members: M. Becquerel, of Paris; Professor Ehrenberg, of Berlin; Admiral Von Krusenstern, of St. Petersburg; and M. Mirbel, of Paris.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Feb. 27.—Sir John Barrow, President, in the chair.

The following papers were read:—

1st. Captain Alexander's account of his journey in South Africa, from Clan William to Kamiesberg, and the mouth of the Orange River, in November, 1836.

In a former number of the *Athenæum*, we noticed Captain Alexander's arrival at Clan William, and as this route, of late years, has not been unfrequently travelled, we shall only now give such extracts as may tend to show the progress of civilization in this portion of the globe.

At the Rhenish Missionary station at Ebenezer, on the south bank of the Oliphant's River, and about twenty miles from its mouth, they have 108 Hotentots' names on the books, although the institution is still in its infancy; the people are usefully employed leading out the waters of the river, which overflows its banks every three or four years; at which time the return of corn is a hundred-fold.

"At the Heer Lodgement (says Captain Alex-

ander) carved on the face of an overhanging rock, we saw the name F. VAILLANT, 1783, the well-known French naturalist, who was among the first Europeans to explore this route. Passing through a barren and uninteresting country, covered with shrubby plants, we reached the Green River, entered the Kamiesberg, and in three days reached the missionary station at Lily Fountain, beautifully situated in a plain between the mountains, which here rise 5000 feet above the sea, commanding a view of the South Atlantic at a distance of 70 or 80 miles.

"There are 800 Namaquas on the books of this excellent Wesleyan establishment, and the quantity of land under cultivation in these mountain valleys is quite surprising. From this point I visited Red Wall Bay, lying on the coast, in a W.S.W. direction from hence; the bay is about one mile in diameter, sheltered from the prevailing winds, which blow across its entrance, with good anchorage of sand and shells at six fathoms, and two beaches for hauling the seine; if made available, this bay may be of great use to this part of the colony, which has no market or outlet for its produce; the entrance of the bay is about forty miles south of the Swartnijer's river. After two days spent at the London Missionary station of Comaggas, halfway between the last named river and the Koosie, I started for the Orange River. I found the bed of the Koosie, the northern boundary of the colony, dry, and only two good fountains in four stages between the Koosie and Orange Rivers; the country mountainous and hilly, the plains sandy, and everywhere covered with low bushes and shrublike plants; flocks of ostriches, many steinboks, and occasionally, zebras were seen on the plains. About 800 Namaquas, and some Basotho, live scattered between Comaggas and the Orange River, under charge of a worthy old German missionary, Mr. Schmeling. At Aris, on the banks of the Orange River, and twenty miles from its mouth, was a small kraal of Namaquas, who were living on dried seal's flesh, large numbers of this animal being killed on a small island near the coast; the traders purchase the skins from the natives for two or three dollars and sell them at the Cape for twelve.

"Oct. 31st, 1836.—The Orange River was here, at twenty miles from its mouth, 450 yards wide, and I waded across to the Great Namaqua Land; we then went through heavy sand to the mouth of the river; two spits of sand narrowed the entrance to 170 yards, inside which the river expands into a basin from three to four miles across, with depth of water for a small schooner to enter, and apparently no rocks or dangers; the current had brought down from the interior large quantities of drift wood, which was lying scattered about at some distance from the banks. Abundance of wild duck, teal, flamingo, quail, Namaqua partridge, &c. at the mouth of the river. Not far hence, the natives pointed out to me a spot where copper may be obtained; the specimen appeared to me good; the wood on the banks of the river would provide fuel, as black ebony, black bass, doorn, willow, &c. for smelting the ore, and the river would afford water carriage at all times of the year. This may eventually prove of value." Captain Alexander returned hence to Kamiesberg, and he hoped to reach the Warm Bath north of the Orange River by the 26th of November.

2nd. A notice on Sindé, by Captain A. Burne, E.I.C., dated Cutch, 1836.

The country watered by the Indus from the confluence of the Punjab rivers to the Ocean, including an area of about 100,000 square miles, is generally known by the name of Sindé, as is also the river itself. Its striking geographical feature is the Indus which traverses the country diagonally, in one trunk, till within 100 miles of the sea, when it begins to throw off branches. Its Delta, however, commences below Tatta, about 50 miles from the sea, which it enters by eleven mouths, and presents a face of 100 miles to the Ocean. The sources of this great river are hidden. It is certain that it rises in the mountains of Himalaya, near Thibet, and it is probable that the Shyuk and the river of Ladak are its principal feeders. From Kashmér the Indus is separated by a snowy range; it then receives the Abba Sin, and passes on to Attok, where it is joined by the river of Cábúl from the north-west; thence, to the sea, it is familiarly known by the name of Sindé or Attok, "forbidden," said to be so called because

Hindus are course, and Indus, produce old world, and Hesu channel a half a mile within 50 sent is the possible water are

The fact the Industrials the country Hyderabad, Schwun, Belooche land is more adapted much also intensive, a country; live on it; the sea, with tobacco, rare. The re

or 400,000 resembling

The inhabitants the country may amount is more ancient, more modern, metropolis.

The inhabitants fourth of and Fakir doubtless feared, are more Asia; the levy tribe arrogant preserve. The people, yet they expected lieved, but

It was dated Nov. the over about to Singh, the Captain Cabul, and Bohkara here and in Afghani

Feb. 21st, in chair.—

mittee of Australian community consisted different

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Hindus are forbidden to cross it. Its length of course, and the body of water discharged by the Indus, prove it to be one of the largest rivers in the old world. Its tributaries, the Hydaspes, Hydrastes, and Hesudrus, are superior to the Rhone; yet the channel of the Indus seldom exceeds the width of half a mile. It is navigable for about 1200 miles from the sea; and boats may drop down it from within 50 miles of Cabul; the great mouth at present is the Gora, but from sand-banks it is not accessible to ships; those mouths which discharge least water are the easiest of approach.

The face of Sindie is uninteresting. Eastward of the Indus there is not a rising ground or a stone in the country, excepting the hillocks of Bukkur and Hyderabad. Westward of the river, as low down as Schwun, the same flatness prevails, to the base of the Belooche mountains; from that town to the sea the land is rocky and barren. Much of the land that is adapted for agriculture is only used for pasture, much also lies neglected—yet the crop of rice is extensive, and far exceeds the consumption of the country; it is the staple of Sindie—the inhabitants live on it, the merchants export it; higher up from the sea, wheat, barley, juwareed, indigo, sugar-cane, tobacco, and hemp, are cultivated; trees are very rare.

The revenue of Sindie is about 40 lacs of rupees, or 400,000*l.*, formerly it was double; in comparison with Egypt and Bengal, to which it possesses much resemblance, it cannot be considered a rich country.

The inhabitants of Sindie are much scattered, but the country is not populous. The whole population may amount to one million, the greater part of which is moveable. Shikarpur, the first city in importance, contains about 25,000, which surpasses the modern capital of Hyderabad. Tatta, the ancient metropolis, has a population of 15,000.

The inhabitants are chiefly Mohammedans; one-fourth of the population may be Hindus. Syuds and Fakirs are respected to veneration; many doubtless are virtuous, but the great bulk, it is to be feared, are hypocritical fanatics. The mendicants are more numerous than in any other country in Asia; they can scarcely be called beggars, for they levy tribute in crowds and by threats, with great arrogance. The government is despotic and oppressive—trade and agriculture languish under it. The people have no stimulus to moral rectitude, and yet they are less degraded than might have been expected. If trusted, the Sindian is honest; if believed, he is not false; if kindly treated, he is grateful.

It was announced by the Secretary, that by letters dated Nov. 28, received that day from Bombay by the overland mail, that Captain Burnes was again about to proceed on an important mission to Runjin the chief of the Punjab. It was supposed Captain Burnes was also to extend his journey to Cabul, which he visited on his former journey to Bokhara, and would proceed by the Indus to Lahore and Attok; and not improbably to Kandahar, in Afghanistan.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

Feb. 20.—Sir Charles Lemon, Bart, M.P. in the chair.—The paper read was ‘A Report of the Committee of Correspondence of the colony of Western Australia on the present state of the settlement,’ communicated by the Right Hon. Lord Glenelg. It consisted of several distinct accounts, contributed by different individuals, as follows:—

1. On Sheep, Cattle and Horses, in the York District; by Mr. Bland.
2. On the Agriculture, Sheep, Cattle, &c. of the Swan and Canning Districts; by Messrs. Bull, Dermott, and Yates.
3. On Horticultural Produce, by Mr. Drummond, botanist.
4. On Vegetables and Fruit; by Mr. Cooke, market gardener.
5. On the supply and price of Provisions, chiefly meat and bread; by Mr. Smith.
6. Account of Shipping, Imports and Exports at Fremantle; by Captain Scott, Harbour Master.
7. On the numbers and condition of Mechanics and Labourers, and value of Buildings; by Mr. Triggs.
8. Census of the Colony in 1836.
9. On the State of Crime, Places of Worship, and Schools; by W. H. Mackie, Esq., Chairman of the Quarter Sessions.

The reading of the remaining portion of the report, containing accounts of the climate, meteorology, diseases, government offices, grants of land, &c. &c. was deferred to the next meeting.

revenue and expenditure, nature and value of property, and the establishment of a bank, was deferred to the next meeting.

This report is valuable, inasmuch as the statements it contains may be safely relied on as authenticated facts; and it is interesting, as exhibiting the experience of a young colony—each instance of success or mistake being available for encouragement or caution to future speculators under similar circumstances. Some repetition, which occasionally occurs under the different heads, is not without value as serving to confirm the truth of particular statements.

1. The section on the eastern side of the Darling range of hills, called the York District, contains (Feb. 1836) about 5000 sheep in excellent condition. The average annual increase is 80 lambs to 100 ewes. The original flocks were imported chiefly from Van Diemen’s Land. They are a large-framed, and very coarse-wooled breed, but, being crossed with pure Merino rams, the quality of the wool is constantly improving. The lambs weigh usually from 40 to 46lb. at the age of six months. These flocks are fed entirely on the native grasses. The Merino flock consists of about 900 pure descendants of the choice Spanish flock, presented in 1791 to George III. by the King of Spain. This breed, since imported into the colony, has much improved in carcase and fleece. The small average weight of the latter, namely, 24lb., is caused by the necessity for shearing the lambs early, in consequence of the barbed seed of a native grass, which adheres to the wool, and by irritating and penetrating the skin, injures the condition of the flock. Sheep, in passing from the Swan to the York District, across the Darling range, are subject to a disease so generally fatal, that one-half, and even two-thirds of a flock have been lost by it. This rapidly destructive disorder is caused by the sheep eating voraciously of the coarse scrub grass which abounds on the mountain range; being at the same time in a weakly condition on landing after a long voyage. That this is the chief cause is proved by the fact, that none are lost in passing from the York District to the Swan, being then brought in good condition from luxuriant pasturage. The evil is said to be avoidable by attention, and the exclusive use of hay and corn for food during the journey. Though the district is expressly a sheep country, horned cattle and horses do well when carefully managed; but there being no swampy grounds, which in this climate, are requisite for the good pasture of cattle, the attention of the settlers is entirely directed to the rearing of sheep, and very little land is cultivated for crops. Those of wheat average from 20 to 26 bushels an acre. The land is generally good, from Beverley to 12 miles below Northam, along a tract measuring about 50 miles in a line, and in width from 2 to 3 miles on each side of the river, which is the average space on which the feed in summer is available for large flocks of sheep. In this area of about 300 square miles, the soil varies from a light red sandy loam to a dark clayey loam; the darkness increasing with the strength. The best land is on the gentle slopes about a mile from the river. It is a dark brown loam, with grit sufficient to keep the surface from binding in summer, and the water from standing in winter. The low flats on the river bank are formed of blue clay, or a quartz sand. The district abounds in excellent grass, and though generally destitute of timber, sufficient is conveniently found for the use of the settlers. The white gum is common and very durable for building, being extremely hard, but on that account rather expensive in cutting. A thousand pounds is stated as the requisite capital for a settler of the highest class, and from 200 to 500*l.* for those who labour with their own hands.

2. (Feb. 1836.) In the Swan and Canning Districts the quantity of land cultivated for crops is given as follows:—

| In 1834. | 1835. | Increase. |
|----------------|-------|-----------|
| Wheat... 564 | 1,156 | 592 |
| Barley... 100 | 156 | 56 |
| Oats.... 116 | 126 | 10 |
| Potatoes... 15 | 31 | 16 |
| | 795 | 1,460 |
| | | 674 |

The crops of wheat on alluvial land average 18 bushels an acre; the best weighing 46lb. a bushel.

The total quantity of corn produced in 1836 was believed to be sufficient for the consumption of the colony. In the three districts of Swan, Canning, and York, the number of live stock was

| | In 1834. | 1836. | Increase. |
|------------------|----------|-------|-----------|
| Horned Cattle... | 500 | 646 | 146 |
| Horses..... | 162 | 167 | 5 |
| Sheep..... | 3,545 | 5,128 | 1,583 |
| Goats..... | 492 | 637 | 165 |
| Swine..... | 372 | 550 | 178 |
| | | 5,071 | 7,158 |
| | | | 2,087 |

Several horses of distinguished pedigree are kept for breeding, and also some superior bulls. Horned cattle in crossing the Darling Range are liable to greater injury and loss than horses, the cause of which is attributed, as in the case of sheep, to an excessive distension of the stomach with the coarse scrub, which is said to be deficient in the bitter quality requisite for the process of digestion. Horses are stated to be subject to fewer diseases than in any country where they are made use of. Several corn mills are turned by horses; but at Perth there are two water-mills and a wind-mill. The expense of grinding and dressing a bushel of wheat of 60lb. is 3*s.* A brewery is established at Perth. The farms houses and buildings are for the most part substantial, and sufficient for useful purposes. Fencing, consisting of 4 or 5 rails, ditch and ditch, though not general, is extensively adopted by some of the settlers. Several farms which have been rated, are found to return 10 per cent. on the capital invested. Alluvial lands let from 20*s.* to 25*s.* an acre. Farm labourers are scarce, and not easily retained in service, in consequence of the great inducement they have to become proprietors themselves. Many industrious individuals of this class have commenced with from 20 to 100 acres, and are likely to become the principal grain growers in the colony, as all those who possess capital resort to the more lucrative employment of rearing sheep.

The wages of agricultural labourers are from 4*s.* to 5*s.* a day. Carpenters receive from 7*s.* to 8*s.* a day, and clever blacksmiths are paid 15*s.* a day. Mechanics and artisans appear, however, to be the least likely class to accumulate property, owing to their dependence on irregular and merely accidental engagements. The class of which this colony is most in need, is that of shepherds; and it is stated as highly probable, that 150 steady individuals of this description would readily meet with satisfactory employment.

3. Mr. Drummond, after an experience of six years in horticultural pursuits in the colony, asserts that no country in the world is more favourable for this department of industry. The abundant and regular fall of rain from May to November, the great number of springs, with the nature of the soil, and the situation on which they rise, and the general character of the climate, form a combination of kindly circumstances peculiar to the banks of the Swan. On the Darling Hills are many beautiful situations for the cultivation of the vine and the olive, where the soil is naturally irrigated by numerous springs issuing from between the ironstone and granite, which in general forms the base of this mountainous range.

Between Guildford and Fremantle, immediately on the banks of the river, lie about a hundred acres of springy land, of which the rich vegetable mould is from one foot to several yards in depth, and is found capable of producing the most luxurious crops of almost every kind of vegetable and fruit; the common sweetwater grape, the muscatel, white cluster, and white seedling grape; the brown fig from the Cape of Good Hope, and the white from India, all bear abundantly from Christmas to May. Peaches are plentiful, but being at present the produce only of seedlings, they are deficient in flavour. The banana has ripened some excellent fruit. Melons, water-melons, and cucumbers, are used as the cheapest food for pigs. The finest Persian melons produce a greater weight of fruit on the same extent of ground (springy), than potatoes or turnips in England. By means of winter gardens laid out in the dry uplands, and summer gardens made in the moist springy soil, a supply is maintained of every kind of vegetable throughout the year. Half a peck of potatoes has produced 12cwt.; and from 10lb. planted, and their produce replanted, 15cwt. have

been obtained in eleven months. The general price of good potatoes is 1*d.* a pound. The finest onions about 2*d.* a pound. Several varieties of gum, some of which possess the properties of gum Arabic, are found in very large quantities and are exported to England. Some of these gums are eaten by the aboriginal tribes as a common article of food.

4. In the neighbourhood of Perth, about 16 acres are laid out in market gardens for the supply of the inhabitants of the town, and of the settlers who thence obtain their provisions. The soil of these gardens is a rich vegetable deposit on a sandy stratum, with small perennial springs rising near the surface, which in the summer months render it highly productive. The soil of the upland gardens is light sandy loam, which in the winter months is equally productive. The following kinds of vegetables are produced in great abundance, and are said to be equal in size, and superior in flavour, to the similar productions of England. Turnips, cabbages, cauliflower, radishes, lettuce, carrots, beet, onions, peas, kidney beans, &c.; long pod and Windsor beans are excepted as not successful. The various pot-herbs, thyme, parsley, sage, &c., thrive extremely well. The rock-melon, cantaloupe, romana, and water melon, are very abundant, and of superior size and flavour. Cucumbers, gourds, and pumpkins, are remarkably fine and large. Grapes, figs, and peaches, are good and abundant. Walnut trees are thriving, and promise similar productiveness. The almond has hitherto not succeeded. The apple, pear, plum, orange, lemon, and gourd, are of recent introduction, but all the numerous plants of these fruits have a thriving and healthy appearance. The hop is growing well in several places. The banana, when sheltered from boisterous winds, produces excellent fruit. In short, almost every species of esculent vegetable and delicious fruit can be readily reared in this country; the climate in winter being sufficiently cool to bring to the greatest perfection all vegetables which are common in England; and in summer sufficiently warm to ripen all the fruits which are common to the south of Europe, and some which belong to the tropics. Fruit trees are of much more rapid growth than in England; the cuttings in the second year after planting bear fruit—and abundantly in the third year. A vine in the government garden at Perth, of the common sweetwater grape, has in one season projected shoots in different directions, above 30 feet in length, so as to cover an area of 20 yards in diameter; and it is stated, that the vines produced in the colony, from the cuttings of two plants of this description, would suffice to plant 20 acres. The vine in the government garden produces at least 1*lb.* of fruit, and would, were it not kept close by cutting, yield an annual supply of 3*cwt.* The price of vegetables in the first years of the settlement was very high. Cabbages were 2*s.* 6*d.* each; they are now sold, large and full-hearted, at 1*d.* each. Potatoes were 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb.; now 1*d.* per lb. Peas were 2*s.* per quart unshelled; now 2*s.* 6*d.* per peck. Onions were 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; now 1*d.* per lb. Watermelons were sold for 10*s.* 6*d.* each; now 2*d.* each. Rock-melons were 5*s.* each; now 6*d.* Cucumbers 9*d.* each; now 1*d.* Grapes 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; now 9*d.* Peaches 1*s.* each; now 2*d.* Figs 4*d.* a shilling; now 6*d.* per dozen.

5. Mr. Smith, in giving an account of the supply of food, states that in 1830 and 1831 about 3,500 sheep were imported from Van Diemen's Land, but the country about the river's mouth being deficient in good grass, and ill adapted for sheep, and it being not then known that excellent pasture might be found by crossing the Darling Range, these flocks were slaughtered to supply the British ships of war then moored in Cockburn Sound. Several herds of cattle, also prematurely imported before the construction of fences and other requisite arrangements were ready for their reception, escaped into the distant tracts of brushwood, and were irrecoverably lost. During the first years of the settlement, fresh meat was frequently not attainable at all. At Fremantle, when a supply was procured, it was sold at 1*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* per lb. Parties of the settlers, by making hunting excursions, procured occasionally some kangaroos, ducks, and teal. In 1831, the scarcity of meat was so great, that condemned salt beef, which had been buried as unfit for food, was disinterred and sold at 1*s.* per lb. In 1835, the retail

price of beef was from 1*s.* 4*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. Mutton is said to be plentiful, but the price is not stated at less than 1*s.* per lb. The average weight of lambs slaughtered is 30*lb.*; wethers 45*lb.* The price of bread flour has greatly fluctuated, being sometimes at 2*d.* per lb., at other times scarcely to be bought for 1*s.* per lb. In 1836 it was plentiful, and remained at about 3*d.* per lb. Sea fish of various kinds are occasionally taken in large quantities off the port of Fremantle, and near Perth in Melville water; and it is stated that a handsome dishful costs about 1*s.* 6*d.* The settlers established in the interior country will eagerly give as much as 30*lb.* for a good dog, bred between the hound and mastiff, for the hunting of kangaroos and other wild animals, which afford a variety of excellent food.

6. The following table of Imports is given by Capt. Scott:

| Date. | Number of Ships. | Tonage. | Value of Cargo left at Fremantle. | Number of Passengers. | Horses. | Cattle. | Sheep. | Goats. | Pigs. | Dogs. |
|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| 1829 18 | 5,200 | 50,284 | 652 | 66 | 77 | 1502 | 25 | 41 | 21 | |
| 1830 39 | 11,601 | 114,177 | 1125 | 26 | 406 | 6244 | 44 | 44 | 48 | |
| 1831 27 | 4,397 | 67,711 | 170 | 30 | | 25 | | | | |
| 1832 13 | 1,583 | 26,581 | 14 | | | | | | | |
| 1833 21 | 3,067 | 48,013 | 73 | | | | | | | |
| 1834 18 | 2,874 | 36,042 | 142 | 8 | 70 | 2870 | | 20 | | |
| 1835 27 | 3,460 | 50,727 | 96 | 3 | 70 | 10641 | 69 | 103 | 69 | |
| Total | 163 | 32,200 | 304,095 | 2281 | 133 | 562 | | | | |

EXPORTS.—1834, 37 bales of Wool.

1835, 50 do.

Previous to 1830 several vessels were wrecked off the harbour mouth; but, subsequent to that year, the winds, currents, and soundings, have become well understood, and no such accidents have occurred. During the winter months (May to September) the prevailing winds are from N.W., and throughout the summer months (October to April) from S.W. The numbers of sheep and cattle exhibited in the above table of imports are the numbers shipped at the ports of Van Diemen's Land and elsewhere, which exceed, by about one-half, the actual numbers landed in the port of Fremantle. The loss of imported sheep has indeed been enormous, as will appear from the following three instances of vessels, which arrived with cargoes of these animals in 1829 and 1830:—

Landed. Shipped.
The ship Lion..... 340 the remains of 400
Thames..... 870..... 1800
Prince Regent..... 1100..... 1200
Williams..... 300..... 700

And of the numbers landed, a very large portion shortly died, or were consigned to the butcher as being unlikely to live; in consequence, first, of the imprudent precipitancy of speculators, who neglected to subject them to the requisite preparatory treatment for the tedious voyage; and, secondly, owing to the equally great improvidence of the colonists in at once undertaking to feed the largest flocks upon partially tried and ill-adapted pasture and localities, without the pre-requisite arrangements for sheltering, folding, and other necessary attention: so that out of the 10,641 which were shipped, not more than twelve or fifteen hundred, probably about one-ninth part, remained on the grants of the settlers. The Report therefore states, that "had the same expensive speculations in sheep been entered into a year or two later, when the settlers were in a state to receive them, and the adaptation of the pasture over the hills had become known, our exports of wool for 1835 would have been very different from the amount exhibited in the table." This amount is as follows:

Wool shipped for England and the Cape of Good Hope in 1835 7,638 lb.
Ditto, in 1836 12,500 lb.

Value 1*s.* 9*d.* a lb.

Hitherto, the only article of exportation from the Swan River colony, besides wool, appears to have been gum, of which about fifteen tons were shipped in 1836 for Liverpool.

7. Mr. Trigg reports, that the number of artisans in the colony is about ninety-five, of whom only one-third find even occasional employment in their respective trades. The remaining two-thirds, if not so fortunate as to obtain a little land to commence farming, either work as general labourers, or, as the last resort, go out as fishermen. It is stated, that even were an influx of monied emigrants to require the construction of new houses and public buildings,

the present number of mechanics and artisans would be sufficient for the work. Of agricultural labourers there is a great deficiency, from causes which already have been explained. The wages of mechanics are from 6*s.* to 8*s.* a day; those of labourers generally 5*s.* The value of the public buildings, consisting chiefly of the Governor's mansion, the Sessions House and Gaol at Perth, and the Custom House and some other offices at Fremantle, is estimated at 13,000*l.* and that of all the private houses and buildings at 30,000*l.*, which is about one-half of the actual cost of construction.

8. The following table exhibits the total population in 1836, of the Swan River settlements, west and east of the Darling mountains:—

| DISTRICTS. | Above 21 years of age. | | Above 14, and under 21. | | Under 14 years. | | Persons employed in | | | Total Population. |
|---|------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Agriculture. | Manufacture and Arts. | Commerce. | |
| Perth | 189 | 126 | 39 | 37 | 97 | 106 | 25 | 30 | 60 | 594 |
| Fremantle | 118 | 61 | 20 | 18 | 70 | 69 | 5 | 15 | 70 | 356 |
| Guildford, with the part of Swan above Perth..... | 198 | 74 | 36 | 29 | 93 | 70 | 180 | 20 | 10 | 590 |
| York | 29 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 35 | | | 56 |
| Canning | 18 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 26 | | | 44 |
| Total | 552 | 273 | 109 | 87 | 275 | 254 | 271 | 65 | 140 | 1590 |

In 1835, there were... { Births..... 64
Marriages..... 4
Deaths..... 24

Population of King George's Sound in 1836. 160
Ditto of Augusta 40

9. The next article of the Report is a minute statistical account of crime in the colony, and of the system of criminal jurisprudence. In the six years from 1830 to 1836, there were—

| Felony. | Misdemeanour. | Total. | |
|------------------|---------------|--------|-----|
| Indicted | 179 | 25 | 195 |
| Convicted | 101 | 15 | 116 |
| Acquitted | 39 | 4 | 43 |
| Discharged | 30 | 6 | 36 |

The number convicted consisted of the following cases:—

| | | | |
|---------------------|----|------------------------------|---|
| Assault | 12 | Receiving stolen goods | 3 |
| Housebreaking | 10 | Perjury | 1 |
| Coining | 1 | Larceny | 2 |
| Embezzlement | 2 | | |

Sentence of death has hitherto neither been passed nor recorded in the colony. For all offences yet committed punishment has been inflicted either by transportation to New South Wales or Van Diemen's Land, by imprisonment, or by flogging. Drunkenness, and its usual attendants, assaults and affrays, offences committed by the proprietors of public-houses and retailers of spirits, with complaints between masters and servants (a very prolific subject), and petty thefts in gardens, comprise all the matter of convictions under the head of summary jurisdiction. The criminal law of the colony is the same as that of England, with slight modifications made by the local legislation. It is administered by the magistrates of the colony in a court of Quarter Sessions. Besides a gaoler and several common constables, there is a mounted guard of constabulary police, whose principal duty is to traverse the country, and prevent depredations by the aboriginal tribes. Prisoners in the gaol are kept to hard labour, the males in works of public utility, the females in domestic business. One clergyman, the chaplain of the colony, resides and performs service at Perth in a temporary building used as a church, and visits other parts of the colony for occasional duties. There is also at Perth a small Methodist chapel, and a well-attended Sunday school. At the same place a subscription school for gratuitous elementary instruction has been established. It is conducted in a creditable manner by a competent teacher, who receives from the Government 50*l.* a year, and contains at present thirty-five scholars. A similar school exists at Fremantle, and another at Guildford.

The subjects of the remaining portion of the paper to be read at the next meeting of the Society have

been stated

Feb. 28.

Mr. Goulding at King George's Sound, as also win, among the genus some singular tribe, but are read from N. Wales," and Sun.

March 2.

number of month was and to the L. received. Menagerie v. and 19 Rep. at the date

ASHMOLE.

White read. The different antiquaries excludes all allows liberty to opin points in wh. they differ, heads. Fir money cons as money of the Penny, Styca. The time the love, skatt is a pound, a gis-Saxons tribute, a enjoined by as due to the played both gymbrian turf, or stone cut the cro by the name of Augustine. on some we their stand found of the Wessex being no law fully, from mentioned.

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The sec. Marcus, They coine by Clarke the above half was claimed cash, and for Shilling co.

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been stated at the commencement of the present abstract.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Feb. 28.—Rev. John Barlow, F.R.S. in the chair. Mr. Gould exhibited several birds from the collection at King's College, and the United Service Museum, as also from those brought over by Mr. Darwin, amongst which were five additional species of the genus *Orpheus*. Mr. Waterhouse described some singular animals, somewhat analogous to the tribe, but differing from them in many particulars, and which genus is termed *Phyllotis*. A letter was read from Mr. Short, "On the *Aptérix* of New South Wales," and another from Mr. Aiton, on the genus

March 2.—E. S. Hardisty, Esq. in the chair.—The number of Visitors to the Museum during the past month was 355, from whom 3*l.* 16*s.* was received, and to the Menagerie 3404, from whom 82*l.* 4*s.* was received. The number of specimens now at the Menagerie was stated as 291 Mammalia, 685 Birds, and 19 Reptiles, or a total of 995, being 13 less than

ASHMOLEAN SOCIETY.—*Oxford, Feb. 20.*—Professor White read a paper on Saxon Coins.

The difference of opinion which exists among
theorists on the nature of Anglo-Saxon money

antiquaries on the nature of Anglo-Saxon money had all positive assertion as dictated points out

excludes all positive assertion on disputed points, yet allows liberty of conjecture on them, without prejudice to opinions already recorded. To ascertain the points in which antiquaries agree, and those in which they differ, the money may be classed under two heads. First, the current coin—and secondly, the money considered by some as current coin, by others as money of account. To the first belong the Sceatta, the Penny, the Halfpenny, the Farthing, and the Styca. The Sceatta is the oldest, and was for some time the lowest coin in use. The word is Meso-Gothisk, being used in the Gospels of Ulphilas for a pound, a penny, and money in general. The Anglo-Saxons expressed by it a coin and a contribution or tribute, as Cyric-sceat, or church scot, the payment enjoined by the laws of Ina in the seventh century due to the church. The term was probably employed both for money in general and for a coin as

posed soon for model, in general, and for a coin, as grybnum was used for "to build," either of timber, turf, or stone. A few Sceattas have been found with the cross, the mark of christianity, struck apparently by the pagan Saxons; one of these bears the name of Ethelbert, King of Kent, the convert of Augustine. The rude attempt at figures of animals on some were probably connected with the figures on their standards. Sceattas with the cross have been found of the kingdoms of Kent, Mercia, East Anglia, and Wessex. The value of this, as of other coins, there being no law extant to fix it, is derived, though doubtfully, from those laws in which fines for offences are mentioned. In a law of Athelstan A.D. 924, the sceatta, named in the fine, approaches nearly the value of the penny, though Clarke thinks that it passed at first for a farthing. The Penny first appears as an estimate for fines in Ina's laws. It was always the 240th part of the pound. Pennies have been found of the above kingdoms, and of Northumbria. The Halfpenny is first mentioned in the twelfth law of Canute, as the worth of the wax charged on every hide of land for church lights. The only known halfpennies are two of Edward the Elder; one discovered by Ruding in the Bodleian Library, and another placed with Mr. Tyssen's coins in the British Museum. The Farthing, or fourthing of a penny, is mentioned in the Saxon Gospels, but the coin has not yet been found. The above are silver coins. The Styca, a copper coin, the smallest in use, was struck only in the mints, if not confined in currency to Northumbria; it is not mentioned in the Saxon laws, but in the Gospel of Saint Mark the two mites which make a farthing are called two Stycas.

The second class contained the Pound, Shilling, Mancus, Thrymsa, Marc, and Ora. The Pound was either commercial for traffic, or numismatic for coining. They coined 240 pennies from it, but it is remarked by Clarke that when payment was made in quantities above half a pound, an addition of 2*s*. per pound was claimed, to make up for loss of weight if paid in cash, and for want of fineness if paid in bullion. The Shilling contained five pence before the reign of Athelstan, but there is mention made in his laws of

a Shilling of four pence, the charge of $4d.$ on every one possessing property worth $30d.$ being there called the king's shilling, paid to him for aid; in one law also a sheep is valued at $4d.$, in another at $1s.$; the precise period of this reduction of the Shilling is unknown. The Thrymsa has been variously estimated at $6d.$, $4d.$, and $3d.$, the last its probable value as the most convenient between the Shilling, or $5d.$, and the penny. Some consider that, if a coin, it passed only in East Anglia and other commercial parts of the kingdom. The Mancus (*gy. manu cusa*) is taken by some for an Italian coin, by others as a native coin. It is noticed by Alfric in his Grammat. Lat. Saxon, as of the value of $30d.$ or $6s.$. So in one Saxon law an ox is valued at $30d.$, in another at a mancus. The Marc and Ora were probably introduced by the Danes, and current only among them. The former was worth 20 Saxon shillings, or $100d.$, the latter $12d.$ The workmanship on coins yet discovered is rude, the letters generally ill-formed, with many varieties in shape, particularly in the coins of Alfred, while an exception is made in favour of Offa's coins, which exhibit an elegance of design and neatness of execution, remarkable for those times, and owing probably not to native, but Italian workmen, whom Offa might have brought to England on his return from Italy.

The name of a monneyer first appears on a penny of Egbert, King of Kent, A.D. 695, that of a place of coining, (Canterbury,) on a sceatta of Baldred, King of Kent, A.D. 805. The name of the King on the Octarchic coins appears sometimes with, and sometimes without the name of his kingdom. Alfred took *Rex*, or *Rex Anglorum*; Athelstan for the first time *Rex totius Britanniae*; Canute, though in his correspondence he styled himself *Rex Anglie, Danie, Norvegia, et Suecia*, was content with *Rex Anglorum* on his coins. Much doubt exists on the fact of a gold coinage among the Saxons,—the gold pieces discovered in the last century, and noticed by Pegge, North, and others, resting on questionable authority. The arguments against a gold coinage rest principally on the non-appearance of any known coin of that metal in antiquarian cabinets; the arguments in its favour rest on the notices of gold money in Canute's Laws, in the purchase of estates, as one by a Bishop of Durham, for 120 mancuses of the purest gold, and in their bequests and other instruments. Much light might be thrown on this question, by the close examination of foreign cabinets, especially of those in Sweden and Denmark. When we remember that large quantities of coin must have left the kingdom, during the excursions of the Danes to whom in 27 years, there were paid in Danegeld 207,000*l.* amounting to more than nine millions of our money; that a large quantity was also sent by Canute into his Danish possessions; and that hoards of Anglo-Saxon coins have been at various times discovered in Denmark and Sweden, as is noticed, particularly in the *Nova Literaria Maris Baltici* anno 1699-1700, it is not unreasonable to deny negative testimony on the question of a gold coinage, that importance which some antiquaries claim for it, while the contents of foreign cabinets are but imperfectly ascertained.

A letter was read from the Rev. James Clutterbuck, of Long Whittenham, Berks, detailing an account of an ancient shield found near Dorchester in a bed of gravel which had the appearance of having been the ancient bed of the river, being below the present bottom of the river, and not far distant from an ancient ford. The dimensions of the shield are 14 by 13 inches, the outer surface being covered with round bosses arranged in concentric circles, with a large boss in the centre. The metal seemed to be a mixture of copper and tin.—Mr. Duncan and the President of Trinity made some observations upon it, the latter considering the workmanship too rude for a shield of Roman construction. Some fragments of ancient pottery were likewise exhibited, found in the same neighbourhood.

A paper by Professor Powell was read "On the Luminous Arch, which was seen on Saturday evening, Feb. 18th, at half past ten." It appeared in the form of an arch passing through the north-east part of the Great Bear and the upper part of Orion. The arch consisted of a broad band of light, sometimes divided vertically, of a brightish rose-red colour, though earlier it was more yellow. Professor Powell

did not see any coruscations, but Professor Riegaud and others observed frequent coruscations, sometimes of a blueish and sometimes of a very deep red colour, diverging generally towards the north. The arch had totally disappeared at half-past eleven.

Dr. Daubeny read an account from M. Tancré of an aurora seen over the greater part of France and the north of Italy on the 18th October last, and exhibited a very delicate instrument for measuring very minute variations of temperature. Mr. Twiss exhibited one of Sir Humphry Davy's cast-iron protectors taken from the bottom of the *Gibraltar* at Pembroke Dock-yard. Its original weight was 7 lbs, but in its present decomposed state it only weighed 1 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Its plumbeous condition was very remarkable, as well as the strong odour from it. The fibrous character of a bolt of wrought iron taken out of the same vessel, and much decomposed, seemed to confirm the hypothesis of the toughness of wrought iron being due to the interlacing of the fibres.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

| MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK. | |
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| SAT. | Asiatic Society..... Two F.M. |
| | Westminster Medical Society .. Eight. |
| | College of Physicians .. Nine. |
| MON. | Entomological Society .. Eight. |
| | British Architects (<i>Visitors</i>) .. Eight. |
| TUES. | Civil Engineers .. Eight. |
| | Linnæan Society .. Eight. |
| | Horticultural Society .. Three. |
| | Geological Society .. 1 p. Eight. |
| | Medico-Botanical Society .. Eight. |
| WED. | Literary Fund (<i>Election of Officers</i>) Three. |
| | Society of Arts .. Eight. |
| | Graphic Society .. Eight. |
| | Royal Society .. 1 p. Eight. |
| THUR. | Royal Society of Literature .. Four. |
| | Society of Antiquaries .. Eight. |
| FRI. | Astronomical Society .. Eight. |
| | Royal Institution .. 1 p. Eight. |

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

DRURY LANE.

This Evening, FAIR ROSAMOND; and THE DEVIL ON TWO STICKS.
Monday, RICHARD THE THIRD (*Duke of Glo'ster* Mr. Forrest).
Tuesday, FAIR ROSAMOND.

Wednesday, No Performance.
Thursday FAIR ROSAMOND: and other Entertainments.

Thursday, FAIR ROSAMUND; and other Entertainments.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

This Evening, ARTAXERXES; THE FRENCH REFUGEE;
THE QUAKER; and DELICATE ATTENTIONS.
On Monday and Tuesday, FRA DIAVOLO; and (first time) IS
SHE HIS WIFE? or, Something Singular; with THE FRENCH
REFUGEE.
Wednesday and Friday. A variety of Entertainments.

Wednesday and Friday, A Variety of Entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE.—Mr. Mitchell having

KING'S THEATRE.—Mr. Mitchell having made something like a wholesale transfer of his opera company to M. Laporte, the latter was enabled to commence his season this day week. "Before Easter," (so runs our kalender) "look for strange things in the Haymarket." We certainly, however, looked for nothing so strange as the performance of "Norma," by artists who, all justice being done to their merits, must be considered second-rate, when compared with those whose voices and attitudes in the same scenes are yet freshly remembered. Madlle. Blasis acted and sung carefully as *prima donna*, but her *physique* totally unfitts her for the part. Signor Catone sung the music allotted to *Pollione*—better, of course, than Winter, worse, of course, than Rubini. In his appearance

and action he has the advantage over both, and his voice is first-rate in quality. Signor Bellini somewhat overdid the part of *Orooseo*. Signora Giannomoni (who only appeared on Tuesday) is the best *Adalgisa* we have seen and heard, with one drawback, her obvious inclination to slacken time when possible, thus giving a further languor to Bellini's music—the last thing wanting to it. A new *ballet*, founded on 'Fra Diavolo,' was produced on Saturday, with a better *corps*, as a whole, than we ever remember to have seen on these boards. It includes, at present, Duverney the graceful, who is rapidly assuming a style of her own—that style a very good one; and Montessu the *gentille*, as rapid and lively as ever; and Herminie Eissler, who belongs to the more ambitious school, and dances with a firmness and a spirit that have already secured her a hold on the good graces of the *cognoscenti*,—to say nothing of Mabille, who is light and brilliant, and does his duty as if he enjoyed it. The *corps de ballet* has been renovated by some fresh faces; the same may be said of the opera chorus, which is now sufficiently strong, and if carefully polished, will be very good and efficient. The orchestra, too, has been reinforced (we are told)

by some new violins: it was a little too wild and dashing on Saturday and Tuesday, but it does its work spiritedly: we wish that its clever conductor would tame it rather than urge it on. The list of promises is a long one; we are to have, in addition to the *post-Easter* company of last year, Madlle. Albertzai and Signor Ivanoff; for novelties, Costa's 'Malek Adhel' and Marliani's 'Ildegonda,' and, by way of relief, certain *opere buffe* revived, among which are mentioned 'Il Matrimonio' and 'Il Turco' and Fioravanti's 'Cantatrice Villani.' For the ballet, the Eßlers and Heberle (query, the Heberle?) are engaged, in addition to, or to replace the present *corps de danse*.

PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS.—These began for the season on Monday last, with a novelty in the shape of a symphony in A major by Onslow—a work which, we think, was somewhat misjudged by the audience: perhaps, because the first movement, which is conceived on no larger a scale than the *allegro* of a chamber trio or quintett, failed to interest; and thus the *adagio* which is dignified and solemn, and the minuet with its peculiarly delicate and melodious trio, and the *finale* on a theme graceful yet instinct with motion, were hardly listened to; nothing being so difficult to get over as a false start. The orchestra, too, played throughout the evening very coarsely, and such a fault is fatal to the nicely dove-tailed music of Onslow, which requires the utmost delicacy of performance. While speaking of the band, we cannot let it pass uncensured for falling short in Mendelssohn's overture to the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' which closed the first act. In Beethoven's symphony in D, which opened the second, it went better—*best*, in Weber's overture to 'The Ruler of the Spirits,' with which the concert concluded. But there ought to be no *degrees* of excellence in the Philharmonic orchestra. The other two instrumental performances of the evening were Beethoven's concerto in C minor, so admirably played by Mr. Moscheles as to tempt us once again to despatch upon his finish and energy, and beyond these, the intimate understanding which this thorough artist always shows in regard to the author under his hands; and a quintett for stringed instruments by Mozart in E flat, in which Mr. Blagrove and the gentlemen led by him, Messrs. Watts, Dando, Lyon, and Lindley, won deservedly the utmost applause. The singers were Madlle. Blasius, and Signors Catone and Ronconi—the lady is always correct, and her voice delightful to hear: but we want something more for Mozart, especially in a concert-room; her song was 'Deh vieni, non tardar,' from 'Le Nozze.' Signors Catone and Ronconi sung a duett by Benedict, which was unworthy of the place of honour it occupied; the former of these gentlemen possesses (shall we say it?) the finest tenor voice of the day,—a style evidencing modesty and feeling, and time enough before him to make him a good musician, which assuredly he is not at present, as his singing of 'O cara immagine' (from 'Il Flauto Magico') abundantly testified. The other vocal piece was a trio from Fidelio. Mr. F. Cramer was the leader, and Sir George Smart conductor, for the evening.

CLASSICAL CHAMBER CONCERTS.—These, among the most intellectual of all our musical entertainments, go on with great spirit. The third Concert, given on Thursday, opened with a delightful quintett in C major, by Onslow. The *allegro* and *rondo* were, however, played something too snappishly, and thus much of the elegance which is the distinctive charm of Onslow's music, was lost; but the slow movement (with its exquisite violoncello solo,) went to a wish. The next instrumental piece was Beethoven's Razumofsky quartett in C, which, also, was excellently played—and what music! perhaps there exists no finer specimen of science, combined with the freest and most winged fancy, than the two first movements of this composition—no minuet more graceful than its minuet—no *finale* more exciting than the brilliant fugue with which it concludes. Handel's trio in G minor, for violin, violoncello, and contrabass, closed the first part of the Concert; the second opened with Beethoven's pianoforte trio in C minor, in which M. Benedict dealt so hardly with his instrument, that we felt, in the fulness of our sympathy, as if we ourselves had been beaten, when his task was done: we never heard him so violent before, and hope that this occasion was the excep-

tion, not the rule. The second part closed with one of Mozart's quartetts. Mrs. Bishop sang Handel's 'But O sad Virgin' (L'Allegro) with great expression and finish. The *obligato* accompaniment to this fine air would have showed Lindley to his utmost advantage, if he could have been contented without the disjointed cadence, *ad libitum*, which he chose (as usual) to add to its close—this is far too much according to the taste of the galleries to be endurable at a Classical Concert. Mrs. Bishop joined with Signor Begrez in the duett 'Fra l'amplessi' ('Così fan tutte'). The latter sung Nourrit's romance from 'Les Huguenots,' transposed a third lower, and without the accompaniment of *viola obligato*, which gives it so much effect in its original position. Madame Giannoni did her best to sing 'Porgi amor,' but she was all but disabled by a severe cold.

DRURY LANE.—Mr. Barnett's opera of 'Fair Rosamond,' which has been so long talked of, came out at length on Tuesday last. We may well say "at length," for it lasted nearly four hours and a half. According, therefore, to prescribed forms, it requires curtailment to the extent of one hour and three quarters. The subject of the drama, partly historical, partly legendary, is well known, and so well known, that the alteration of the *dénouement*, by saving the life of Rosamond, and making every body sing a sort of *all-lived-happy-afterwards* chorus, is in the very worst taste. In short, the dramatic part of the business may be disposed of in a few words: for the characters are wholly devoid of interest, the dialogue is dull to stagnation, and the poetry—if we may so misapply the word—very bad indeed; whether we look to its general poverty, or to the grammatical blunders it contains. We say this upon the authority of the published book of songs. These circumstances considered, it is evident that Mr. Barnett started under cruel disadvantages, and it is the more to his credit that he has been able to draw his inspiration from other sources, and to produce so clever an opera as he has. Leaving a more detailed criticism, and a more scientific notice of the music to come in its proper place, after it shall have been published, we must state our opinion that Mr. Barnett would have composed an opera more to the taste of an English audience, if he had followed himself more, and foreign composers less. He has run his music first after one, and then after another of them, until he has run it out of breath, and has thus, to a certain extent, sacrificed the simplicity and melody, which used to constitute the chief charm of his works, to the production of startling effects, and a sort of determination that the ear shall have any note rather than the one it expects next. This was particularly observable to us in the ballad of which Miss Romer sang only one verse—beginning 'Mine must be the silent tear,' where the flowing melody, of which we had been baulked in the song, came delightfully upon our ears in the symphony which followed it—and we exclaimed involuntarily, "why was not *that* the song?" We fear it cannot be denied that there is little in this opera "to carry away with you," though we freely admit that there are some of the concerted pieces which carry you away with them. We were not particularly struck with anything until towards the end of the second act, when a Romance, sung by Miss Poole and chorus, "raised our spirits and charmed our ears." After this we were most pleased with a canon, beginning 'Tell her that words have no power,' and a madrigal, beginning 'Merrily wake music's measure.'

One absurdity of the author, so great as even to throw his other absurdities almost into the shade, is the causing one of the principal scenes to be sung and acted in the foreground of the interior of Westminster Abbey, whilst the coronation of the King and Queen is quietly proceeding at the back of the stage, both of whom come down and join in it as soon as the seemingly minor matter of their being crowned is brought to an end. This is really too great an outrage even for opera. Upon the whole, we are compelled to say, that partly owing to the excessive badness of the drama, and partly to the wearying quantity of music, the general effect upon us was one of dulness. Mr. Barnett has, however, clearly established himself as a composer of great learning, and when common

sense and common policy shall have induced the entailment so imperiously called for, we trust that his opera will attain to sufficient popularity to reward him adequately for a work so creditable to his talents and to his industry.

We regret having been prevented from witnessing Mr. Forrest's first performance of Richard III., on Monday last. The papers have generally made honourable mention of it, and private report, as far as we have heard, goes to confirm their judgment.

MISCELLANEA

Deaf and Dumb in the Duchy of Brunswick.—The following medico-statistical report is drawn up by Dr. Mansfield, and has been translated and published in the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, a work which we take this opportunity of recommending to our medical readers.—The whole population of the duchy, 253,232; the total number of deaf and dumb, 125; consequently, the proportion is 1 in 2,026. Of the 125, 60 are males, and 65 females.—In Prussia, the proportion of deaf and dumb to the population is 1 in 1,426.—Nearly the fourth part of the whole number had one or two brothers or sisters similarly affected.—For the most part, these persons belong to the middle and lower classes; their parents being generally poor.—The health of these persons is in general good; those residing in the vicinity of the Harz are said to be scrofulous, and five of the whole number are idiotic. In two cases only could the deaf-dumbness be traced to distinct causes; viz. one as the consequence of fright, the other of military fever.—Almost all the deaf-dumb in the duchy have the benefit of education.—With the exception of those who are yet too young to work, or who are mentally incapable of gaining their livelihood, or are supported by relatives, (57 in all,) or who ate in the course of instruction, (number not mentioned,) all the others are gaining their own livelihood as artisans and labourers.—Dr. Mansfield calls the particular attention of teachers to the fact, that, in many cases, the inability to acquire the sound of particular letters or words depends on physical defects of the organs of speech, and not on mental incapacity. In proof of this he instances nine cases among the children at this time in the Brunswick Institution, who labour under some defect of this kind.

Statistics of Rome.—According to the last census, completed in October 1836, the population of Rome then amounted to 153,678, exclusive of Jews. There were 41 bishops, 1468 secular ecclesiastics, 2023 monks, and 1476 nuns.

Castle of Pau.—A million of francs is about to be employed in the restoration of the castle of Henry IV. at Pau. All that has been added in modern times is to be taken away, and the old edifice will remain in its ancient form; all the apartments are to be furnished in a manner corresponding with their royal residences; the halls will be hung with Gobelin tapestry, or that which is at the Louvre, and is very old. The tower is to be restored, and the officers of the household will there have their apartments.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The work forwarded by G. A. was received, but we do not therefore hold ourselves bound to notice it forthwith, or even to notice it at all. It must be obvious, that while we are content to send all over Europe, and even out of Europe, at great cost, for books likely to interest or inform the public, we would not, knowingly, leave an English work of that character to grow stale upon our shelves; but we claim the right of judging for ourselves in what so specially concerns us.

S. N.—D. received.

The question asked by "A Country Subscriber" relating to the 'List of New Books' which appears in this journal, has been answered before, but it may be well to explain once again, and more fully. The List referred to is obligingly furnished to us by the largest bookselling establishment in London, and contains the name, size, and price of all works published during the week, including, we believe, such works as have been what is technically called "subscribed." It is the custom in the trade, to send round to the principal booksellers prior to the actual delivery of a popular work, to know what number each may require, and this is called "subscribing"; and it does therefore frequently happen, that a book subscribed is not actually published for some days or weeks after. Again: a work published under the circumstances referred to by our correspondent—that is, by an artist on his own account—never to be heard of by the booksellers, and cannot, therefore, be included in our List, which is as accurate as circumstances permit: indeed, we have been convinced by experience, that any attempt to improve it only leads to error and confusion.

Mr. J. J. produced by
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MR. LEIGH SOTHEBY has the honour of
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lowing days, he will sell BY AUCTION at his House, Wel-
lington-street, and GIOVANNI D'ATHANASI'S
extraordinary COLLECTION OF EGYPTIAN AN-
TIQUITIES, which for several months past have created such
universal interest and astonishment to all who have had the
gratification of seeing them during their Exhibition at Exeter
Hall, will now be sold to the public known, and has been so justly
appreciated by all antiquarians, that it is quite unnecessary here
to enter into a detail of its contents.

The Antiquities are now removed from Exeter Hall to Wel-
lington-street, where they are re-arranged with the remaining
portion of the Collection, which has just arrived, and will be
open for the inspection of the public on Monday next, and con-
tinue on view until the time of sale.

Descriptive Catalogues are now ready, and may be had of Mr.
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